

EXHIBIT 17

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS**

STATE OF CALIFORNIA;
COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS; STATE OF NEW
JERSEY; STATE OF COLORADO;
STATE OF ILLINOIS; STATE OF
MARYLAND; STATE OF NEW YORK;
STATE OF WISCONSIN,

Plaintiffs,

v.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION;
DENISE CARTER, in her official capacity
as former Acting Secretary of Education
and current acting Chief Operating Officer,
Federal Student Aid; LINDA MCMAHON,
in her official capacity as Secretary of
Education,

Defendants.

Case No. 1:25-cv-10548

DECLARATION OF AMANDA WINKELSAS

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I, Amanda Winkelsas, declare as follows:

1. I am a resident of the State of New York. I am over the age of 18 and have personal knowledge of all the facts stated herein. If called as a witness, I could and would testify competently to the matters set forth below.

2. I am currently employed by the State University of New York, University at Buffalo ("UB") as Clinical Associate Professor and Director & Principal Investigator for the UB Teacher Residency Program.

3. As Clinical Associate Professor, Director, and Principal Investigator ("PI") for the UB Teacher Residency Program, I am responsible for teaching, research, and service in the Department of Learning and Instruction at the Graduate School of Education at the University at Buffalo. In addition to those core faculty responsibilities, I lead all grant implementation efforts related to the UB Teacher Residency program. Those responsibilities include hiring and overseeing staff, building partnerships with school districts, leading recruitment and selection of residents and other program participants, coordinating course scheduling and instructors, and facilitating seminars. I also am responsible for collaborating with the SUNY Research Foundation's Sponsored Project Services, the entity through which grants flow, on relevant agreements and contracts, financial accounting, subawards for evaluation, and grant reporting. I also engage in research and writing about the effectiveness of the residency model in teacher preparation.

4. I submit this declaration **in** connection with the recent termination by the Department of Education of two separate grants: the UBTR Supporting Effective Educator

Development ("SEED") Grant, #S423A220055; and the Teacher Quality Partnership ("TPQ") Grant, #S336S230043 - 24.

Supporting Effective Educator Development (SEED) Grant Program

5. In 2022, the U.S. Department of Education ("ED") invited applications for the Supportive Effective Educator Development Grant Program (SEED).

6. The SEED program was designed to bolster the ranks of skilled teachers by providing funding that would be used to train and develop highly effective educators in traditionally underserved local educational agencies and geographically diverse areas, such as urban and suburban areas, and in hard-to-fill subject areas, like math and science. According to the Federal Register Notice Inviting Applications for the grant, "The SEED program, authorized under section 2242 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended (ESEA), provides funding to increase the number of highly effective educators by supporting the implementation of Evidence-Based practices that prepare, develop, or enhance the skills of educators. These grants will allow eligible entities to develop, expand, and evaluate practices that can serve as models to be sustained and disseminated." The notice also stated that the SEED program was "designed to foster the use of rigorous Evidence-Based practices in selecting and implementing strategies and interventions that support educators' development across the continuum of their careers (*e.g.*, in preparation, recruitment, professional learning, and leadership development)." *See* Federal Register, Vol 87, No. 64 (April 4, 2022) at 19487-96.

7. The Federal Register notice outlined "competitive" priorities of the grant (*i.e.*, those priorities that effect the likelihood of grant applicants in being awarded the grant):

- Competitive Preference Priority 1 focuses on promoting educator diversity in classrooms across the Nation. While teachers of color benefit all students, they can have a particularly strong positive impact on students of color. Yet only around one in five teachers are people of color, compared to more than half of K-12 public school

students. The Department recognizes that a diverse educator workforce plays a critical role in ensuring equity in our schools, while also supporting intercultural experiences and competencies in our education system that will benefit and improve the opportunities for all students.

- Competitive Preference Priority 2 focuses on the importance of preparing teachers to create inclusive, supportive, equitable, unbiased, and identity-safe learning environments for their students. Research has demonstrated that, in elementary and secondary schools, children and youth learn, grow, and achieve at higher levels in safe and supportive environments, and in the care of responsive adults they can trust. This priority will allow applicants to propose a project designed to promote educational equity and adequacy in resources and opportunity for underserved students.
- Competitive Preference Priority 3 provides explicit support for developing students' social and emotional skills, such as their ability to collaborate with peers and persist through challenging tasks. The priority directs applicants to incorporate pathways into teaching that provide a strong foundation in child and adolescent development and learning, including skills for implementing social and emotional learning strategies in the classroom.

See Federal Register, Vol 87, No. 64 (April 4, 2022) at 19487-96.

8. As set out in its grant proposal, University at Buffalo intended to use the SEED Grant to address local teacher shortages and engage teachers in evidence-based professional learning in order to improve their instructional effectiveness. While teacher shortages are an ongoing problem, the COVID-19 pandemic deepened the situation in Western New York ("WNY"). Students, especially those in high-need school districts, had experienced unprecedented learning loss, and teacher attrition was exacerbated, particularly in specific content areas. At the same time, early career and veteran teachers were experiencing elevated levels of burnout and dissatisfaction with their positions. Our grant project intended to address each of those challenges; most specifically teacher shortages, preparation, and retention. We sought to expand pathways into the profession and to provide a tiered approach to professional learning that expanded opportunities for early-career teacher induction, teacher-leadership, and evidence-based learning and coaching to improve educator instructional effectiveness to positively impact student learning and to improve teacher retention in high-need school districts.

Our intent was to address specific objectives:

- To recruit, prepare, support, and retain demographically diverse cohorts of teachers for high-need schools in high-need districts through a collaboratively developed community-focused residency program anchored in evidence-based, equity-centered practices;
- To recruit, develop, and support high-quality mentor teachers and induction specialists in residency partner schools by implementing evidence-based coaching and induction support models; and
- Through a tiered and multi-faceted series of professional development activities, to increase the capacity of residents, early-career teachers, mentor teachers, and teacher-leaders to merge evidence-based instructional strategies with culturally responsive, transformative social emotional learning supports that enable teachers to create effective and inclusive learning environments for students.

9. UB submitted an application for the SEED grant on April 26, 2022.

10. On 9/27/2022, UB received an email notification of award from the U.S.

Department of Education.. A true and correct copy of that award is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

11. We also received a Grant Award Notice ("GAN") that had an effective date of 10/1/2022. The GAN listed three budget periods - 10/1/22-9/30/23 - \$937,957, 10/1/23-9/30/24-\$1,331,844, 10/1/24-9/30/25-\$1,295,104. A true and correct copy of that GAN is attached hereto as Exhibit B. Also attached as Exhibit C is a true and correct copy of the GAN that was received in the Fall of 2024. We had no plans to file for an extension, though we were planning to apply for a 2-year renewal, if a competition was opened in April 2025.

12. The terms and conditions for the grant were set forth in Section 10 of the GAN. Termination of the grant was permitted only if a recipient or subrecipient (1) "materially fails to comply with any term of an award" (GAN Attachment 5); or (2) engages in violations of human trafficking (GAN Attachment 8). *See* Exhibit B.

13. Since October 2022, University at Buffalo has used the SEED grant funds in a manner fully consistent with ED's statements and requirements regarding the nature of the grant

and University at Buffalo's grant application. Teacher residency models require partnerships between districts and university partners. They also require selecting and matching teacher residents with expert teachers who serve as mentors for the duration of a school year (in lieu of shorter periods of student teaching in traditional models). The activities we have undertaken reflect the work required to implement the teacher residency model and effective, evidence-based professional learning for teachers who are either emerging or established teacher leaders(i.e., teachers seeking to expand their repertoires of practice to improve student learning). The activities UB undertook included resident and mentor teacher recruitment and selection; alumni leaders and alumni fellows recruitment; bilingual fellows recruitment; teacher-leader and induction specialist recruitment; and development and design of our professional learning series focused on integrating evidence-based instructional practices and Socia-Emotional Learning ("SEL"). We have made significant and documented progress in meeting the stated goals of the SEED grant program.

- **Residents & Mentors** - Through a joint process with our primary residency partner district (BPS), we recruited (through a host of informational sessions, webinars, tabling events, and other means), interviewed, selected, and confirmed 60 residents. We have also recruited, interviewed, and visited classrooms for more than 100 prospective mentor teachers. Residents have been engaged in coursework and clinical residency practice on their path to certification and a Master's degree in education. Together, resident-mentor pairs have received intensive coaching, in-field mentoring, video coaching, ongoing professional learning, and have participated in week-long institutes designed to improve instructional practice to positively impact student learning. They have been engaged in action research cycles to gather evidence of instructional effectiveness and impact on student learning. Pairs participate in instructional rounds, with opportunities to observe effective teaching in varied school contexts.
- **Teacher-Leaders** - Teacher-leaders are in-service teachers who are committed to building their instructional and leadership capacity for the benefit of improving student learning and taking on instructional leadership roles in their school buildings. To date, there have been 199 unique participants and a total of 250 total participants in the teacher-leadership tiers of our evidence-based professional learning activities. These include

alumni leaders, alumni fellows, bilingual fellows, induction specialists, and teacher-leaders working with other pre- and in-service teachers. Emerging teacher-leaders participate alongside induction specialists in regular check-ins and monthly consortium-based activities in community spaces, designed around problem-of-practice protocols.

- **Development, Design, and Implementation of Professional Learning Series** - Our professional learning encompasses a variety of modes and formats: in-person workshops and institutes, online asynchronous modules with active, asynchronous engagement, in-person coaching, and virtual coaching. We have developed and engaged residents, mentors, and teacher-leaders in ongoing, evidence-based professional learning focused on: 1) Instructional Mentoring (New Teacher Center Training meeting the SEED grant requirement to utilize evidence-based models from the IES What Works Clearinghouse) and 2) Merging Evidence-Based Instructional Practices (meeting the SEED grant requirement to utilize evidence-based models from the JES What Works Clearinghouse) with Culturally Responsive, Transformative SEL.
- **Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) Coaching**- We have engaged participants in intensive SEL coaching focused on improving classroom practice. Typically efforts to improve students' social-emotional well-being are disconnected from teacher's instructional practices. We have built out a model for professional learning and coaching that is focused on more explicit connections between evidence-based instructional practice and SEL, and are investigating the effectiveness of this approach on student outcomes.
- **Intensive Academic Advising** - All residents participate in a cohort and receive comprehensive supports to ensure they are successful on their path to degree and certification. This includes academic advising, certification preparation, and student-specific supports to improve the quality of preparation and ensure they are persisting in the program and then beyond, as they transition to teachers of record.

14. As of February 27, 2025, the total amount of funds spent from the SEED grant was \$2,619,161.40 across all project years. \$729,601.60 of the SEED grant remains unspent, with those funds budgeted primarily for personnel costs, subawards, conference and training costs, and fellows and participant supports. However, those funds are no longer available because of the termination notice.

15. The University at Buffalo has submitted all annual Data Verification Sheets (DYS reports) and Annual Performance Reports (APRs) required by the Department of Education's reporting schedule. DYS reports are typically due in December and APRs are due in April. Upon request, we provided clarifications to all questions related to our reports. Moreover, University at Buffalo has participated in quarterly monitoring calls with the SEED program officer, Melissa Harper-Butler. All monitoring calls took place on Teams and were recorded by the program officer. During each meeting, we reported on project staffing, progress aligned with the Absolute and Competitive Priorities of the grant, project activities completed during the quarter, project activities planned for the upcoming quarter, data collection and project evaluation reports, dissemination of findings, and project expenditures and drawdowns from GS (the Federal grant management and accounting system). Any follow-up required after the monitoring calls was handled via email communication with our program officer. No issues or concerns were raised with any of the project updates shared during the monitoring calls.

16. Our last monitoring call with Melissa Harper-Butler took place on Monday, January 27¹ and there were no concerns raised about project progress or about any other issues. At no time did we receive any written feedback related to concerns with project progress. We received continuation GANs for subsequent project periods as expected. Our most recent GAN reduced our Y3 budget by the amount that had been unspent from previous budget periods.

17. On February 10, 2025, without any prior notice or indication, ED informed University at Buffalo that its SEED grant - UBTR SEED: Tiered Professional Learning for Inclusive & Equitable Educator Practice - was being terminated as of that date. University at Buffalo received notice of that termination via an email on behalf of ED from an individual named Mark Washington, Deputy Assistant Secretary at the U.S. Department of Education, which

attached the grant award termination letter. A true and correct copy of that email is attached hereto as Exhibit D. A true and correct copy of the termination letter that was attached to that email is attached hereto as Exhibit E.

18. Subsequently, UB received an updated GAN that revised the budget period so as to end on February 10, 2025; the same day as the noticed termination. The GAN also states that "The grant is deemed to be inconsistent with, and no longer effectuates, Department priorities. See 2 C.F.R. § 200.340(a)(4); see also 34 C.F.R. § 75.253." The previous budget period ending had been September 30, 2025. A true and correct copy of that updated GAN is attached hereto as Exhibit F.

19. The email notice of termination from Mark Washington stated that, "the grant is inconsistent with, and no longer effectuates, Department priorities." *See* Exhibit D. According to the attached termination letter, "The grant specified above provides funding for programs that promote or take part in DEI initiatives or other initiatives that unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, or another protected characteristic; that violate either the letter or purpose of Federal civil rights law; that conflict with the Department's policy of prioritizing merit, fairness, and excellence in education; that are not free from fraud, abuse, or duplication; or that otherwise fail to serve the best interests of the United States. The grant is therefore inconsistent with, and no longer effectuates, Department priorities." *See* Exhibit E. No specific information about how our particular project was taking part in DEI initiatives, was unlawfully discriminating, was violating civil rights law, or how it conflicted with Department policies or priorities was provided.

20. The notice of termination that I received was unusual for several reasons. First, the communication was received outside of typical business hours; I received the referenced

above email at 7:07 PM on Monday, 2/10/25. Second, the communication came from an agency contact that was not familiar to me. As of that date, all contact regarding the SEED grant had come from Mia Howerton, Orman Feres, and Melissa Harper-Butler. The email sender - Mark Washington - was not someone with whom I had previously communicated and as far as I know had no previous involvement with the SEED grant. Finally, the termination letter itself also was strange. It was titled "Template for Blue ED logo letterhead" (although that title did not transfer to the downloaded version) and it included unsecured and modifiable fields; *i.e.*, fields that could be altered or modified by any recipient. The author of the document listed in the document properties was Brooks Morgan, another individual who I was not familiar with and who had had no previous involvement with the SEED grant.

21. University at Buffalo relied on its expectation and understanding that ED would fulfill its commitment to provide SEED Grant funding that had awarded and took actions based on that reliance. The termination notice came mid-way through the final year of the grant and threatens to impact grant recipients in significant ways.

22. For example, twenty teacher residents are mid-way through their residency year. Those residents committed to the program and signed service agreements that promised living stipends for each month of the P-12 school district academic year, which stipends were funded through the SEED grant. Many of these residents have families and rely on the SEED grant stipends for urgent living expenses as well as for the ability to complete the program.

23. In addition to those teacher-residents, sixty in-service teacher-leaders or emerging teacher leaders; twenty in-service mentor teachers in Buffalo Public Schools; school leaders; approximately 6000 local P-12 students, and countless members of our local community relied on the continuation of the funding that had been approved in order to continue the

preparation and professional learning activities designed to meet our local needs related to teacher shortages.

24. Termination of the SEED grant has caused immediate harm to our residents-pre-service teachers, jeopardizing their ability to pay for basic living expenses and to complete the program. Critical programming and supports were immediately stopped for early career teachers in their induction phase-a time that is critical to their overall development and retention. Additionally, there is impact to the personnel working to provide daily support to our residents, mentor teachers, school leaders, and teacher-leaders-these are the individuals who ensure that we are providing the robust professional learning and support to our participants. These personnel will be terminated without continuation of funding and will have lost their only source of employment.

25. Prior to the grant award termination on 2/10/25, ED had never provided University at Buffalo with notice, written or otherwise, that the grant was problematic in any way or that UB had engaged in any of the activities described in the termination letter. In particular, ED had never provided notice that University at Buffalo's programs "promote or take part in DEI initiatives or other initiatives that unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, or another protected characteristic"; "violate either the letter or purpose of Federal civil rights law"; "conflict with the Department's policy of prioritizing merit, fairness, and excellence in education"; "are not free from fraud, abuse, or duplication"; or "otherwise fail to serve the best interests of the United States."

26. The University of Buffalo has objected to ED's termination of the SEED grant, specifically requesting that ED hold the termination in abeyance and continue to provide funding while the objection is considered and/or void the termination and reinstate the obligated funds. The

University of Buffalo also requested that ED respond by Tuesday, March 4 2025 as to whether it will take one/or both of these actions. As of the date of this declaration, ED has not responded.

27. The termination of the SEED grant has caused immediate harm to our ability to address the local teaching shortage and improve learning experiences for students in P12 schools. It immediately impacts twenty pre-service teacher residents, school leaders, sixty in-service teacher-leaders from across Western New York, twenty in-service mentor teachers in Buffalo Public Schools, approximately 6000 local P-12 students, and countless members of our local community. It causes imminent harm to the 20 residents currently enrolled who are dependent upon living stipends to meet daily needs and persist in the program. It harms the in-service teachers in need of evidence-based professional learning to improve their instructional practice to positively impact student learning outcomes. It harms the thousands of students in high need schools and districts who stand to benefit from a well-prepared and supported teacher workforce.

28. Our program was designed to address critical shortages in high-need schools and to do so in partnership with the local school districts. Ending the grants negatively impacts workforce pipelines, increasing reliance on under-prepared teachers. Without our program, schools and districts will struggle to fill vacancies or provide the robust instructional and induction support necessary to improve teacher effectiveness and retention rates. Without well-supported, high-quality teachers, students suffer-falling short on national standards and impacting their future workforce and financial trajectories. Our structured model enhances preparation and retention to ensure that districts are not forced to expend funds on hiring and training expenses year-after-year as teachers leave the district. Districts and schools are depending on us to support their efforts to ensure all children have access to high-quality, learner-ready teachers.

Teacher Quality Partnership (TQP) Program

29. In 2022, the Department of Education invited applications for the Teacher Quality Partnership Program ("TQP").

30. The TQP was a program that was intended to strengthen teaching skills by providing additional training and professional development to students pursuing a career in education. See <https://www.ed.gov/grants-and-programs/teacher-prep/teacher-quality-partnership-program#about-us-teacher-quality-partnership>.

In the Federal Register notice that invited applications, ED described the purpose of the program as follows:

- *Purpose of Program:* The purposes of the TQP program are to improve student achievement; improve the quality of prospective and new teachers by improving the preparation of prospective teachers and enhancing professional development activities for new teachers; hold teacher preparation programs at institutions of higher education (IHEs) accountable for preparing teachers who meet applicable State certification and licensure requirements; and recruit highly qualified individuals, including individuals of color and individuals from other occupations, into the teaching force.

The Federal Register notice outlined "absolute" priorities of the grant (*i.e.*, those priorities that are required in order to fulfill the requirements of the grant):

- In the FY 2022 TQP competition, through Absolute Priority 1 and 2, we support new pre-baccalaureate and teacher residency models that would emphasize the creation or expansion of high-quality, comprehensive pathways into the classroom. Through Absolute Priorities 3 and 4, we add a focus on school leadership. Absolute Priority 3 supports the development of school leader programs in conjunction with the preparation of pre-baccalaureate teachers under Absolute Priority 1. Absolute Priority 4 supports the development of school leader programs in conjunction with the residency model under Absolute Priority 2...

The Federal Register notice outlined "competitive" priorities of the grant (*i.e.*, those priorities that effect the likelihood of grant applicants in being awarded the grant):

- Competitive Preference Priority 1, from the Effective Educator Development (EED) notice of final priorities, focuses on projects that propose to increase educator diversity. Under Competitive Preference Priority 1, projects must be designed to address identified teacher shortage areas and developed and implemented in partnership with Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Hispanic-Serving Institutions, Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities, and other minority-serving institutions, in order to diversify the teacher pipeline. Teachers of color benefit all students and can have a particularly strong positive impact on students of color. Yet only around one in five teachers⁴ are people of color, compared to more than half of K-12 public school students. The Department recognizes that diverse educators will play a critical role in ensuring equity in our education system.
- Competitive Preference Priorities 2, 3, and 4 are all from the Secretary's Supplemental Priorities. Competitive Preference Priority 2 focuses on projects that propose to support a diverse educator workforce that is prepared with the necessary certification and credentialing to teach in shortage areas, while recognizing the teachers' needs in the high-need schools to be served by the proposed project.

See Federal Register, Vol. 89, No. 66 (April 4, 2024) at 23573.

31. As set out in its grant proposal, University at Buffalo intended to use the Teacher Quality Partnership grant to address local teacher shortages and engage teachers in evidence-based professional learning to improve their instructional effectiveness. As WNY recovered from the COVID-19 pandemic, students, especially those in high-need school districts, had experienced unprecedented learning loss, and teacher attrition was exacerbated, particularly in specific content areas. At the same time, early career and more veteran teachers were experiencing unprecedented levels of burnout and dissatisfaction with their positions because of the wide array of student social-emotional and learning needs. Our grant project aimed to address each of those challenges, most specifically teacher shortages, preparation, and retention. We sought to expand a successful preparation model; expand pathways into the profession; partner with new schools and districts; and to provide a tiered approach to professional learning that expanded opportunities for early-career teacher induction, teacher-leadership, and evidence-

based learning and coaching to improve their instructional effectiveness to positively impact student learning and to improve teacher retention in high-need school districts.

32. University at Buffalo identified several main objectives for the TQP grant:

- Expand the successful model for recruiting and preparing a more diverse profession of teachers to additional districts by recruiting and preparing 60 highly effective teachers and 8 leaders.
- Ensure that building leaders develop competency to support and extend the residency model to increase the diversity of teachers and leaders;
- Increase educator diversity by implementing practices so that underrepresented teacher candidates are supported to be successful from program admission through completion, placement, induction, and retention as educators;
- Through strategic recruitment and collaboration with school partners on grow your-own teacher preparation, increase the proportion of well-prepared educators serving students, with a focus on underserved students. Increasing the number and diversity of teachers with certification in shortage areas such as mathematics, science, language, and ESOL;
- Develop and support sustainable, district serving, professional learning opportunities that are intended to support novice teachers and build teacher capacity to enact culturally responsive, positive social-emotional supports that impact student academic learning, with a focus on promoting equity of access and opportunity for historically underserved students. Strengthen the role of Western New York school leaders in supporting novice teachers and teacher leaders during the program and through induction.

33. UB submitted an application for the TQP grant on June 3, 2022.

34. On July 27, 2023, we received notice of our award from the U.S. Department of Education. A true and correct copy of that notice is attached hereto as Exhibit G.

35. On or about September 27, 2023, ED produced a GAN setting forth the terms and conditions of the grant award. A true and correct copy of the corresponding GAN and its attachments is attached as hereto Exhibit H. Our first GAN was effective 10/1/23 and there were five budget periods: 10/1/23-9/30/24 - \$397,567.00; 10/1/24-9/30/25-\$912,308.00; 10/1/25-

9/30/26 - \$928,530; 10/1/26-9/30/27- \$937,873; 10/1/27-9/30/28 - \$897,413.00. A true and correct copy of the GAN that we received in the Fall of 2024 is attached hereto as Exhibit I.

36. The GAN included the terms and conditions and permitted termination of the grant by ED only if a recipient or subrecipient (1) "materially fails to comply with any term of an award" (GAN Attachment 5); or (2) engages in violations of human trafficking (GAN Attachment 8). *See* Exhibit H.

37. Since October 2023, University at Buffalo has used the Teacher Quality Partnership grant funds in a manner fully consistent with ED's statements regarding the nature of the grant and University at Buffalo's grant application.

38. Since project launch in Fall 2023, we have engaged in a variety of activities aligned with project priorities. Teacher residency models require partnerships between districts and university partners. They also require selecting and matching teacher residents with expert teachers who serve as mentors for the duration of a school year (in lieu of shorter periods of student teaching in traditional models). The activities we have undertaken reflect the work required to implement the teacher residency model and effective, evidence-based professional learning for teachers:

- **Residents & Mentors** - Through a joint process with residency partner schools, we recruited (through a host of informational sessions, webinars, tabling events, and other means), interviewed, selected, and confirmed 9 teacher residents and 2 leadership residents. We have also recruited, interviewed, and visited classrooms for more than 20 prospective mentor teachers. Teacher Residents have been engaged in coursework and clinical residency practice on their path to certification and a master's degree in education. Together, resident-mentor pairs have received intensive coaching, video coaching, ongoing professional learning, and have participated in week-long institutes designed to improve instructional practice to positively impact student learning. They have been engaged in action research cycles to gather evidence of instructional effectiveness and impact on student learning. Pairs participate in instructional rounds, with opportunities to observe effective teaching in varied school contexts.

- **Development, Design, and Implementation of Professional Learning Series** - Our professional learning encompasses a variety of modes and formats: in-person workshops and institutes, online asynchronous modules with active, asynchronous engagement, in-person coaching, and virtual coaching. We have developed and engaged residents, mentors, and teacher-leaders in ongoing, evidence-based professional learning focused on: 1) Instructional Mentoring (New Teacher Center Training-and evidence-based models from the JES What Works Clearinghouse) and 2) Merging Evidence-Based Instructional Practices (an evidence-based Instructional Practice Guide models from the IES What Works Clearinghouse) with Culturally Responsive, Transformative SEL.
- **Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Coaching-** We have engaged participants in intensive SEL coaching focused on improving classroom practice. Typically efforts to improve students' social-emotional well-being are disconnected from teacher's instructional practices. We have built out a model for professional learning and coaching that is focused on more explicit connections between evidence-based instructional practice and SEL, and are investigating the effectiveness of this approach on student outcomes.
- **Intensive Academic Advising** - All residents participate in a cohort and receive comprehensive social-emotional and academic supports to ensure they are successful on their path to degree and certification. This includes academic advising, certification preparation, and student-specific supports to improve the quality of preparation and ensure they are persisting in the program and then beyond, as they transition to teachers of record.

39. As of February 27, 2025, during the period of liquidation prompted by the early termination, we have been awarded \$1,309,875. Expenditures to date are \$570,032.96. Funds remaining unspent are \$739,842.04, although those funds now are not available as a result of the ED termination. To date, our requests for approval for disbursement of those funds have not been granted. The next scheduled disbursement was expected in October 2025, and these funds would be used to support the continuation of the program for a new cohort of 15 teacher residents, 15 mentor teachers, and 2 leadership residents. It would also provide funding toward the induction support of the program completers graduating in Summer 2025.

40. The University at Buffalo has submitted all annual Data Verification Sheets (DVS reports) and Annual Performance Reports (APRs) required by the Department's reporting schedule. DVS reports are typically due in December and APRs in April. Upon request, we provided clarifications to all questions related to our reports. University at Buffalo has participated in quarterly monitoring calls with the TQP program officer, Diana Schneider. All monitoring calls took place on Teams and were recorded by the program officer. During each meeting, we reported on project staffing, progress aligned with the Absolute and Competitive Priorities, project activities completed during the quarter, project activities planned for the upcoming quarter, data collection and project evaluation reports, dissemination of findings, and project expenditures and drawdowns from 05. Any follow-up required after the monitoring calls was handled via email communication with our program officer. No issues were raised with any of the project updates shared during the monitoring calls or with the overall grant objectives or purpose.

41. Our last monitoring call with Diana Schneider took place on September 10, 2024, and there were no concerns raised around project progress or program goals. At no time did we receive any written feedback related to concerns with project progress. We received continuation GANs for subsequent project periods as expected.

42. At 1:29 PM on Wednesday, February 12, 2025, I received another notification of an updated GAN from Diana Schneider via an automated email generated by the GS system but sent from Ms. Schnieder's email account. That updated GAN reflected a project end date of February 12, 2025. The previous project end date from the approved grant had been September 30, 2025. The GAN also states that "The grant is deemed to be inconsistent with, and no longer

effectuates, Department priorities. See 2 C.F.R. § 200.340(a)(4); see also 34 C.F.R. § 75.253." A true and correct copy of that revised GAN is attached hereto as Exhibit J.

43. Also on February 12, 2025, I received an email from Mark Washington, Deputy Assistant Secretary for the U.S. Department of Education, that attached a notice of termination for the TQP grant as of that date. A true and correct copy of that email is hereto attached as Exhibit K and a true and correct copy of the attached termination notice as Exhibit L.

44. The email notice of termination from Mark Washington stated that, "the grant is inconsistent with, and no longer effectuates, Department priorities." *See* Exhibit K. According to the attached termination letter, "The grant specified above provides funding for programs that promote or take part in DEI initiatives or other initiatives that unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, or another protected characteristic; that violate either the letter or purpose of Federal civil rights law; that conflict with the Department's policy of prioritizing merit, fairness, and excellence in education; that are not free from fraud, abuse, or duplication; or that otherwise fail to serve the best interests of the United States. The grant is therefore inconsistent with, and no longer effectuates, Department priorities." *See* Exhibit L. No specific information about how our particular project was taking part in DEI initiatives, was unlawfully discriminating, was violating civil rights law, or conflicted with Department policies or priorities was provided.

45. These events were unusual. I received the email termination after business hours, at 10:05 PM on Wednesday, February 12, 2025 from an agency contact that was not familiar to me. As of that date, all contact regarding the TQP grant has come from Mia Howerton and Diana Schneider. The letter was digitally signed by Mark Washington at 10:02:29 PM and had one modifiable field open. When Sponsored Project Service authorized

representative, Jeff Schieder reached out to Diana Schneider via email about not being able to access the GAN, she replied, "I am sorry I can't get into at this time. Please do keep trying, Amanda and someone in your budget office all have access to 06."

46. University at Buffalo relied on its expectation and understanding that ED would fulfill its commitment to provide TQP grant funding it had awarded to University at Buffalo. This termination notice came mid-way through the first residency cohort's participation. Nine teacher residents and two leadership residents are mid-way through their residency year. These residents committed to the program and signed service agreements that promised living stipends for each month of the P-12 school district academic year, which stipends were funded through the TQP grant. Many of these residents have families and urgent living expenses for which stipends are critical to their livelihood, in addition to their ability to complete the program. Each resident has a mentor teacher working beyond the instructional day to provide support in addition to engaging in evidence-based professional learning. Without prior notice, funding was immediately cut off, providing immediate harm to our residents-pre-service teachers-jeopardizing their ability to pay for basic living expenses. Critical programming and supports were immediately stopped for early career teachers in their induction phase-a time that is critical to their overall development and retention. Additionally, there is impact to the personnel working to provide daily support to our residents, mentor teachers, school leaders, and teacher-leaders-these are the individuals who ensure that we are providing the robust professional learning and support to our participants. These personnel will be terminated without continuation of funding and will have lost their only source of employment. Most critically impacted are the students of our current residents and their mentor teachers, and the future students of the districts

and schools we serve who will be impacted by the teacher shortage in numerous ways-including being subject to the instruction of long-term subs in lieu of qualified, well-prepared teachers.

47. If funding is not continued, we will not be able to prepare, support, or work toward the retention of 60 teacher residents and 8 leadership residents who stand to fill vacancies in high need schools and content areas. Additionally, we will not be able to provide the evidence-based professional learning for 60 in-service teachers in an effort to improve student learning outcomes in high need schools and districts. In total, this stands to impact approximately 13,000 local P-12 students in Buffalo Public Schools, Buffalo Academy of Science Charter, and REACH Academy Charter School. Our program was designed to address critical shortages, that, in the absence of funding, will disrupt the teacher workforce pipeline and the quality of preparation for teachers in high-need school districts. It will increase reliance on under-prepared teachers and will disrupt the work of local public and charter schools.

48. Prior to the grant award termination on February 12, 2025, ED had never provided University at Buffalo with notice, written or otherwise, that the grant administered by University at Buffalo engaged in any of the activities described in the termination letter. In particular, ED had never provided notice that University at Buffalo's programs "promote or take part in DEI initiatives or other initiatives that unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, or another protected characteristic"; "violate either the letter or purpose of Federal civil rights law"; "conflict with the Department's policy of prioritizing merit, fairness, and excellence in education"; "are not free from fraud, abuse, or duplication"; or "otherwise fail to serve the best interests of the United States."

49. The University of Buffalo has objected to ED's termination of the TQP grant, specifically requesting that ED hold the termination in abeyance and continue to provide funding

while the objection is considered and/or void the termination and reinstate the obligated funds. The University of Buffalo also requested that ED respond by Tuesday, March 4 2025 as to whether it will take one/or both of these actions. As of the date of this declaration, ED has not responded.

50. This termination causes immediate harm to our ability to address the local teacher shortage and improve learning experiences for students in P12 schools. It causes imminent harm to the 20 residents currently enrolled who are dependent upon living stipends to meet daily needs and persist in the program. It harms the in-service teachers in need of evidence-based professional learning to improve their instructional practice to positively impact student learning outcomes. It harms thousands of students in high need schools and districts who stand to benefit from a well-prepared and supported teacher workforce.

51. Our program was designed to address critical shortages in high-need schools and to do so in partnership with the local school districts. Ending the grants negatively impacts workforce pipelines, increasing reliance on under-prepared teachers. Without our program, schools and districts struggle to fill vacancies or provide the robust instructional and induction support necessary to improve teacher effectiveness and retention rates. Without well-supported, high-quality teachers, students suffer-falling short on national standards and impacting their future workforce and financial trajectories. Our structured model enhances preparation and retention to ensure that districts are not forced to expend funds on hiring and training expenses year-after-year as teachers leave the district. Districts and schools are depending on us to support their efforts to ensure all children have access to high-quality, learner-ready teachers.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States that, to the best of my knowledge, the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on March 5, 2025, at Buffalo, New York.


AMANDA WINKELSAS

Exhibit A

- Outlook

GS Notification - New Grant Award Notification S423A220055

From Mia.Howerton@ed.gov <Mia.Howerton@ed.gov>

Date Tue 9/27/2022 8:50 AM

To Amanda Winkelsas <awinkels@buffalo.edu>; Jeffrey Schieder <jss10@buffalo.edu>; TINA.WOOD@ED.GOV <TINA.WOOD@ED.GOV>

Cc Mia.Howerton@ed.gov <Mia.Howerton@ed.gov>

Dear Grantee:

The U.S. Department of Education (ED) is pleased to notify you that your grant has been selected for funding. You may access your electronically signed Grant Award Notification (GAN) documents for this new award, S423A220055 & GAN action number 1, at [http://12s.Unam.12.safelinks.12rotection.outlook.com/?url=htt12%3A%2F%2Fwww.gS.gov%2F&am12:data=05%7C01%7Cawinkels%40buffalo.edu%7C638c9daadfc347c001c808daa086e203%7C96464a8af8ed40b199e25f6b50a20250%7C0%7C0%7\(637998798419952306%7CUnknown%7CTWF12bGZsb3d8eyJWljojMC4wliAwMDAilCJQljojV2luMzliLCJBtIi6lk1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&amP-;sdata=W4WXuY.mlnkF6.lbRqXAG1Svuz8s2x.RnfZxhTwltVxs%3D&amP-;lerved=0](http://12s.Unam.12.safelinks.12rotection.outlook.com/?url=htt12%3A%2F%2Fwww.gS.gov%2F&am12:data=05%7C01%7Cawinkels%40buffalo.edu%7C638c9daadfc347c001c808daa086e203%7C96464a8af8ed40b199e25f6b50a20250%7C0%7C0%7(637998798419952306%7CUnknown%7CTWF12bGZsb3d8eyJWljojMC4wliAwMDAilCJQljojV2luMzliLCJBtIi6lk1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&amP-;sdata=W4WXuY.mlnkF6.lbRqXAG1Svuz8s2x.RnfZxhTwltVxs%3D&amP-;lerved=0) under Grant Maintenance, Award Documents.

You will need to sign in to GS to access your GAN. If you don't already have an account in GS, please go to the link on the top left of the home page that says "Not Registered? Sign up" and follow the instructions. To register, you will need your institution's UEI. You must also use the exact same name (no nicknames) and email address that is listed on this email. If you are a project director, or state director, select "Project Director" or "State Director" when prompted to choose a role in your profile. Please note: Only recipients of this email (the project director and certifying official or state director and authorizing official) can access the GAN in GS. If someone else at your organization requires a copy, you may print out a copy or forward the PDF to them.

Please review your GAN documents carefully, including any attachments to the GAN and any terms and conditions appearing in Box 10 of the GAN. Your grant may be subject to special conditions or your grant or organization may have been designated as high-risk. You should review your GAN carefully to see if any of the following circumstances apply:

-If your grant is subject to special conditions, the special conditions may be included in Box 10 or as an attachment to the GAN.

-If your grant has been designated high-risk, the special conditions may be included in Box 10, or may be included in the high-risk designation that is attached to the GAN.

-If your entity has been designated a high-risk grantee, the high-risk special conditions are also applicable to this grant and may be included in Box 10 of the GAN, or may be included in the high-risk designation that is attached to the GAN.

Your grant is subject to any special conditions and/or high-risk designation that are attached to your GAN and must be carried out in accordance with those requirements. Your understanding of the GAN documents helps to ensure proper program and fiscal management of your grant.

If you have questions regarding accessing GS or your GAN documents, please contact the GS help desk at 888-336-8930. Questions regarding the next steps for your grant implementation should be directed to the ED Program Contact listed on your GAN (Box 3).

Please acknowledge receipt of this e-mail by sending a reply to the Education Program Contact listed on your GAN (Box 3). We wish you success on your grant.

Exhibit B

S423A220055

Amanda Winkelsas

The Research Foundation for SUNY on behalf of U. at Buffalo

512 Baldy Hall

University at Buffalo

Buffalo, NY 14260

S423A220055

Jeffrey Schieder
The Research Foundation for SUNY on behalf of U. at Buffalo
The UB Commons
520 Lee Entrance, Suite 211
Amherst, NY 14228



**US Department of Education
Washington, D.C. 20202**

S423A220055

GRANT AWARD NOTIFICATION

1	RECIPIENT NAME The Research Foundation for SUNY on behalf of U. at Buffalo The UB Commons 520 Lee Entrance, Suite 211 Amherst, NY 14228		2	AWARD INFORMATION <table> <tr> <td>PR/AWARD NUMBER</td> <td>S423A220055</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ACTION NUMBER</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ACTION TYPE</td> <td>New</td> </tr> <tr> <td>AWARD TYPE</td> <td>Discretionary</td> </tr> </table>		PR/AWARD NUMBER	S423A220055	ACTION NUMBER	1	ACTION TYPE	New	AWARD TYPE	Discretionary					
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ACTION NUMBER	1																	
ACTION TYPE	New																	
AWARD TYPE	Discretionary																	
3	PROJECT STAFF RECIPIENT PROJECT DIRECTOR Amanda Winkelsas (716) 645-1066 awinkels@buffalo.edu EDUCATION PROGRAM CONTACT Mia Howerton (202) 205-0147 Mia.Howerton@ed.gov EDUCATION PAYMENT HOTLINE G5 PAYEE HELPDISK 888-336-8930 obsessed@servicenowservices.com		4	PROJECT TITLE 84.423A UBTR SEED: Tiered Professional Learning for Inclusive & Equitable Educator Practice														
5	KEY PERSONNEL <table> <thead> <tr> <th><u>NAME</u></th> <th><u>TITLE</u></th> <th><u>LEVEL OF EFFORT</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Amanda Winkelsas</td> <td>Project Director</td> <td>100 %</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>					<u>NAME</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>LEVEL OF EFFORT</u>	Amanda Winkelsas	Project Director	100 %							
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GRANT AWARD NOTIFICATION

FUND CODE	FUNDING YEAR	AWARD YEAR	ORG. CODE	CATEGORY	LIMITATION	ACTIVITY	CFDA	OBJECT CLASS	AMOUNT
0204A	2022	2022	ES000000	B	UE1	000	423	4101C	\$937,957.00
10	PR/AWARD NUMBER:			S423A220055					
	RECIPIENT NAME:			The Research Foundation for SUNY on behalf of U. at Buffalo					
	GRANTEE NAME:			RESEARCH FOUNDATION FOR THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK, THE 520 LEE ENTRANCE STE 211, AMHERST, NY 14228 - 2577					
	PROGRAM INDIRECT COST TYPE:			Restricted					
	PROJECT INDIRECT COST RATE:			8%					
	TERMS AND CONDITIONS								
	(1) THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE INCORPORATED IN THE GRANT AGREEMENT:								
	1) THE RECIPIENT'S APPLICATION (BLOCK 2);								
	2) THE APPLICABLE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT REGULATIONS: 2 CFR PART 180; NONPROCUREMENT DEBARMENT AND SUSPENSION AS ADOPTED AT 2 CFR PART 3485; 2 CFR PART 200 AS ADOPTED AT 2 CFR 3474 (BLOCK 8), AND 34 CFR PARTS 75, 77, 79, 81, 82, 84, 86, 97, 98, 99; AND THE PROGRAM REGULATIONS SPECIFIED IN BLOCK 8; AND								
	3) THE SPECIAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS SHOWN AS ATTACHMENTS IN BLOCK 8 ON THE INITIAL AWARD APPLY UNTIL CHANGED.								
THIS AWARD SUPPORTS ONLY THE BUDGET PERIOD SHOWN IN BLOCK 6. IN ACCORDANCE WITH 34 CFR 75.253, THE SECRETARY CONSIDERS, AMONG OTHER THINGS, CONTINUED FUNDING IF:									
1) CONGRESS HAS APPROPRIATED SUFFICIENT FUNDS UNDER THE PROGRAM;									
2) THE DEPARTMENT DETERMINES THAT CONTINUING THE PROJECT WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE GOVERNMENT;									
3) THE GRANTEE HAS MADE SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS TOWARD MEETING THE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT;									
4) THE SECRETARY ESTABLISHED PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR THE GRANT IN THE APPLICATION NOTICE, THE PERFORMANCE TARGETS IN THE GRANTEE'S APPROVED APPLICATION;									
5) THE RECIPIENT HAS SUBMITTED REPORTS OF PROJECT PERFORMANCE AND BUDGET EXPENDITURES THAT MEET THE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOUND AT 34 CFR 75.118, 2 CFR 200.328 AND 200.329, AND ANY OTHER REPORTING REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED BY THE SECRETARY; AND									
6) THE GRANTEE HAS MAINTAINED FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS THAT MEET THE REQUIREMENTS IN 2 CFR 200.302, FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT, AND 2 CFR 200.303, INTERNAL CONTROLS.									
IN ACCORDANCE WITH 2 CFR 200.308(c)(2) CHANGES TO KEY PERSONNEL IDENTIFIED IN BLOCK 5 MUST RECEIVE PRIOR APPROVAL FROM THE DEPARTMENT.									
THE SECRETARY ANTICIPATES FUTURE FUNDING FOR THIS AWARD ACCORDING TO THE SCHEDULE IDENTIFIED IN BLOCK 6. THESE FIGURES ARE ESTIMATES ONLY AND DO NOT BIND THE SECRETARY TO FUNDING THE AWARD FOR THESE PERIODS OR FOR THE SPECIFIC AMOUNTS SHOWN. THE RECIPIENT WILL BE NOTIFIED OF SPECIFIC FUTURE FUNDING ACTIONS THAT THE SECRETARY TAKES FOR THIS AWARD.									
(2) The Office of Management and Budget requires all Federal agencies to assign a Federal Award Identifying Number (FAIN) to each of their financial assistance awards. The PR/AWARD NUMBER identified in Block 2 is your FAIN.									



**US Department of Education
Washington, D.C. 20202**

GRANT AWARD NOTIFICATION

If subawards are permitted under this grant, and you choose to make subawards, you must document the assigned PR/ AWARD NUMBER (FAIN) identified in Block 2 of this Grant Award Notification on each subaward made under this grant. The term subaward means:

1. A legal instrument to provide support for the performance of any portion of the substantive project or program for which you received this award and that you as the recipient award to an eligible subrecipient. (See 2 CFR 200.331(a))
 2. The term does not include your procurement of property and services needed to carry out the project or program (The payments received for goods or services provided as a contractor are not Federal awards, see 2 CFR 200.501(f) of the OMB Uniform Guidance: "Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards").
 3. A subaward may be provided through any legal agreement, including an agreement that you or a subrecipient considers a contract. (See 2 CFR 200.1)
- (3) Reimbursement of indirect costs is subject to the availability of funds and statutory and regulatory restrictions. The negotiated indirect cost rate agreement authorizes a non-Federal entity to draw down indirect costs from the grant awards. The following conditions apply to the below entities.

A. All entities (other than institutions of higher education (IHE))

The GAN for this grant award shows the indirect cost rate that applies on the date of the initial grant for this project. However, after the initial grant date, when a new indirect cost rate agreement is negotiated, the newly approved indirect cost rate supersedes the indirect cost rate shown on the GAN for the initial grant. This new indirect cost rate should be applied according to the period specified in the indirect cost rate agreement, unless expressly limited under EDGAR or program regulations. Any grant award with an approved budget can amend the budget to account for a change in the indirect cost rate. However, for a discretionary grant award any material changes to the budget which may impact the scope or objectives of the grant must be discussed with the program officer at the Department. See 34 CFR 75.560 (d)(3) (ii) (part 75 of EDGAR).

B. Institutions of higher education (IHE)

Under 2 CFR part 200, Appendix III, Indirect (F&A) Costs Identification and Assignment, and Rate Determination for Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs), the Department must apply the negotiated indirect cost rate in effect on the date of the initial grant award to every budget period of the project, including all continuation grants made for this project. See 2 CFR Part 200, Appendix III, paragraph C.7. Therefore, the GAN for each continuation grant will show the original indirect cost rate and it applies to the entire period of performance of this project. If the indirect cost rate agreement that is applicable to this grant does not extend to the end of the grant's project period, the indirect cost rate set at the start of the project period must still be applied to the end of project period regardless of the fact that the rate has otherwise expired.

- (4) **Revised Budget:** The following condition will be imposed on all grantees recommended for funding:
The grantee must submit a revised budget covering Year 1 of the grant award that aligns with the actual amount of funding that the grantee receives from the Department. The revised budget must be within the scope of the approved project and must align with all initial goals and objectives of the approved application. The grantee must submit this revised budget within 30 days of the grant award.
If you wish to request reconsideration of these specific conditions, please send written notification describing why such conditions should not be imposed on this grant to your Department program officer.

Frontload: The following condition will be imposed on the grantees who are proposed to be frontloaded:
This grant is a frontloaded grant, i.e., funds indicated in Block 7 were requested by the grantee, and approved by the Department, for expenditure in more than one budget period. For the current budget period and any subsequent budget period, the grantee may only draw down funds in accordance with its approved budget for that budget period and may not draw down funds in excess of that amount without prior approval.
If you wish to request reconsideration of these specific conditions, please send written notification describing why such conditions should not be imposed on this grant to your Department program officer.



**US Department of Education
Washington, D.C. 20202**

GRANT AWARD NOTIFICATION

AUTHORIZING OFFICIAL

DATE

EXPLANATION OF BLOCKS ON THE GRANT AWARD NOTIFICATION

For Discretionary, Formula and Block Grants (See Block 2 of the Notification)

- 1. RECIPIENT NAME** - The legal name of the recipient or name of the primary organizational unit that was identified in the application, state plan or other documents required to be submitted for funding by the grant program.
- 2. AWARD INFORMATION** - Unique items of information that identify this notification.
 - PR/AWARD NUMBER** - A unique, identifying number assigned by the Department to each application. On funded applications, this is commonly known as the "grant number" or "document number." The PR/Award Number is also known as the Federal Award Identifying Number, or FAIN.
 - ACTION NUMBER** - A numeral that represents the cumulative number of steps taken by the Department to date to establish or modify the award through fiscal or administrative means. Action number "01" will always be "NEW AWARD"
 - ACTION TYPE** - The nature of this notification (e.g., NEW AWARD, CONTINUATION, REVISION, ADMINISTRATIVE)
 - AWARD TYPE** - The particular assistance category in which funding for this award is provided, i.e., DISCRETIONARY, FORMULA, or BLOCK. If this award was made under a Research and Development grant program, the terms RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT will appear under DISCRETIONARY, FORMULA OR BLOCK.
- 3. PROJECT STAFF** - This block contains the names and telephone numbers of the U.S. Department of Education and recipient staff who are responsible for project direction and oversight.
 - *RECIPIENT PROJECT DIRECTOR** - The recipient staff person responsible for administering the project. This person represents the recipient to the U.S. Department of Education.
 - EDUCATION PROGRAM CONTACT** - The U.S. Department of Education staff person responsible for the programmatic, administrative and business management concerns of the Department.
 - EDUCATION PAYMENT CONTACT** - The U.S. Department of Education staff person responsible for payments or questions concerning electronic drawdown and financial expenditure reporting.
- 4. PROJECT TITLE AND CFDA NUMBER** - Identifies the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) subprogram title and the associated subprogram number.
- 5. * KEY PERSONNEL** - Name, title and percentage (%) of effort the key personnel identified devotes to the project.
- 6. AWARD PERIODS** - Project activities and funding are approved with respect to three different time periods, described below:
 - BUDGET PERIOD** - A specific interval of time for which Federal funds are being provided from a particular fiscal year to fund a recipient's approved activities and budget. The start and end dates of the budget period are shown.
 - PERFORMANCE PERIOD** - The complete length of time the recipient is proposed to be funded to complete approved activities. A performance period may contain one or more budget periods.
 - *FUTURE BUDGET PERIODS** - The estimated remaining budget periods for multi-year projects and estimated funds the Department proposes it will award the recipient provided substantial progress is made by the recipient in completing approved activities, the Department determines that continuing the project would be in the best interest of the Government, Congress appropriates sufficient funds under the program, and the recipient has submitted a performance report that provides the most current performance information and the status of budget expenditures.
- 7. AUTHORIZED FUNDING** - The dollar figures in this block refer to the Federal funds provided to a recipient during the award periods.
 - *THIS ACTION** - The amount of funds obligated (added) or de-obligated (subtracted) by this notification.
 - *BUDGET PERIOD** - The total amount of funds available for use by the grantee during the stated budget period to this date.
 - *PERFORMANCE PERIOD** - The amount of funds obligated from the start date of the first budget period to this date.
 - RECIPIENT COST SHARE** - The funds, expressed as a percentage, that the recipient is required to contribute to the project, as defined by the program legislation or regulations and/or terms and conditions of the award.
 - RECIPIENT NON-FEDERAL AMOUNT** - The amount of non-federal funds the recipient must contribute to the project as identified in the recipient's application. When non-federal funds are identified by the recipient where a cost share is not a legislation requirement, the recipient will be required to provide the non-federal funds.
- 8. ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION** - This information is provided to assist the recipient in completing the approved activities and managing the project in accordance with U.S. Department of Education procedures and regulations.

UEI/SSN - The UEI, issued in SAM.gov, is a unique 12 character organization identifier assigned to each recipient for payment purposes. The SSN, issued by the Social Security Administration to individuals, is a nine character identifier for individuals. The Department assigns the SSN as an identifier to individuals who are recipients of Federal financial assistance for payment purposes.

***REGULATIONS -** Title 2 of the Code of Federal Regulations(CFR), Part 200 as adopted at 2 CFR 3474; the applicable parts of the Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR), specific program regulations (if any), and other titles of the CFR that govern the award and administration of this grant.

***ATTACHMENTS -** Additional sections of the Grant Award Notification that discuss payment and reporting requirements, explain Department procedures, and add special terms and conditions in addition to those established, and shown as clauses, in Block 10 of the award. Any attachments provided with a notification continue in effect through the project period until modified or rescinded by the Authorizing Official.

9. LEGISLATIVE AND FISCAL DATA - The name of the authorizing legislation for this grant, the CFDA title of the program through which funding is provided, and U.S. Department of Education fiscal information.

FUND CODE, FUNDING YEAR, AWARD YEAR, ORG.CODE, PROJECT CODE, OBJECT CLASS -

The fiscal information recorded by the U.S. Department of Education's Grants Management System (G5) to track obligations by award.

AMOUNT - The amount of funds provided from a particular appropriation and project code. Some notifications authorize more than one amount from separate appropriations and/or project codes. The total of all amounts in this block equals the amount shown on the line, "THIS ACTION" (See "AUTHORIZED FUNDING" above (Block 7)).

10. TERMS AND CONDITIONS - Requirements of the award that are binding on the recipient.

***PARTICIPANT NUMBER -** The number of eligible participants the grantee is required to serve during the budget year.

***GRANTEE NAME -** The entity name and address registered in the System for Award Management (SAM). This name and address is tied to the UEI registered in SAM under the name and address appearing in this field. This name, address and the associated UEI is what is displayed in the SAM Public Search.

***PROGRAM INDIRECT COST TYPE -** The type of indirect cost permitted under the program (i.e. Restricted, Unrestricted, or Training).

***PROJECT INDIRECT COST RATE -** The indirect cost rate applicable to this grant.

***AUTHORIZING OFFICIAL -** The U.S. Department of Education official authorized to award Federal funds to the recipient, establish or change the terms and conditions of the award, and authorize modifications to the award

FOR FORMULA AND BLOCK GRANTS ONLY:

(See also Blocks 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 9 and 10 above)

3. PROJECT STAFF - The U.S. Department of Education staff persons to be contacted for programmatic and payment questions.

7. AUTHORIZED FUNDING

CURRENT AWARD AMOUNT - The amount of funds that are obligated (added) or de-obligated (subtracted) by this action.

PREVIOUS CUMULATIVE AMOUNT - The total amount of funds awarded under the grant before this action.

CUMULATIVE AMOUNT - The total amount of funds awarded under the grant, this action included.

* This item differs or does not appear on formula and block grants.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
& CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

Amanda Winkelsas
The Research Foundation for SUNY on behalf of U. at Buffalo
The UB Commons
520 Lee Entrance, Suite 211

Amherst, NY 14228

SUBJECT: Payee Verification for Grant Award S423A220055

This is to inform you of the payee for the above listed grant award issued by the United States Department of Education

Grantee UEI/SSN: LMCJKRFW5R81
Grantee Name: RESEARCH FOUNDATION FOR THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK, THE

Payee UEI/SSN: GMZUKXFDJMA9
Payee Name: RESEARCH FOUNDATION FOR THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK, THE

If any of the above information is not correct, please contact a Payee Customer Support Representative at 1-888-336-8930. Please send all the correspondence relating to the payee or bank information changes to the following address:

U.S. Department of Education
550 12th Street, SW
Room 6087
Washington, DC 20202

Attn: Stephanie Barnes
Phone: 202-245-8006

SPECIFIC GRANT TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR FINANCIAL AND PERFORMANCE REPORTS

PERFORMANCE REPORTS:

(1) FINAL REPORTS - ALL RECIPIENTS are required to submit a final performance report within 120 days after the expiration or termination of grant support in accordance with submission instructions provided in box 10 of the Grant Award Notification (GAN), or through another notification provided by the Department of Education (Department) ([2 CFR § 200.329\(c\)](#)).

(2) ANNUAL, QUARTERLY, or SEMIANNUAL REPORTS - ALL RECIPIENTS of a multi-year discretionary award must submit an annual Grant Performance Report ([34 CFR § 75.118](#)). The annual performance report shall provide the most current performance and financial expenditure information that is sufficient to meet the reporting requirements of 2 CFR §§ [200.328](#), [200.329](#), and [34 CFR § 75.720](#).

Your education program contact will provide you with information about your performance report submissions, including the due date, as a grant term or condition in box 10 on the GAN, or through another notification provided by the Department. The grant term or condition in box 10 on the GAN or another notification may reflect any of the following:

1. That a performance report is due before the next budget period begins. The report should contain current performance and financial expenditure information for this grant. It will either identify the date the performance report is due or state that the Department will provide additional information about this report, including due date, at a later time.
2. That an interim performance report is required because of the nature of the award or because of statutory or regulatory provisions governing the program under which this award is made, and that the report is due more frequently than annually as indicated, e.g., due quarterly and submitted within 30 days after the end of each quarter, or due semiannually and submitted within 30 days after the end of each 6-month period ([2 CFR § 200.329\(c\)\(1\)](#)).
3. That other reports are required, e.g., program specific reports required in a program's statute or regulation.

(3) FINANCIAL REPORTS – SOME RECIPIENTS:

If a financial report is required, your education program contact will provide you with information about your financial report submission, including the due date, as a grant term or condition in box 10 on the GAN, or through another notification.

A [Standard Form \(SF\) 425 Federal Financial Report \(FFR\)](#) is required if:

1. A grant involves cost sharing, and the ED 524B, which collects cost sharing information, is not submitted or a program-specific report approved by U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) does not collect cost sharing information;
2. Program income was earned;

GAN ATTACHMENT 2

Revised 03/2021

3. Indirect cost information is to be reported and the ED 524B was not used or a program-specific report approved by OMB does not collect indirect cost information;
4. Program regulations or statute require the submission of the FFR; or
5. Specific Award Conditions, or specific grant or subgrant conditions for designation of "high risk," were imposed in accordance with 2 C.F.R. part [200.208](#) and part [3474.10](#) and required the submission of the FFR.

If the FFR is required, the notification may indicate one of the following (see the form and its instructions at [Standard Form \(SF\) 425 Federal Financial Report \(FFR\)](#)):

1. Quarterly - FFRs are required for reporting periods ending on 12/31, 03/31, 06/30, 09/30, and are due within 30 days after each reporting period.
2. Semi-annual - FFRs are required for reporting periods ending on 03/31 and 09/30, and are due within 30 days after each reporting period.
3. Annual - FFRs are required for reporting period ending 09/30, and is due within 30 days after the reporting period.
4. Final - In coordination with the submission of final performance reports, FFRs are due within 120 days after the project or grant period end date (2 CFR [200.328](#)).

When completing an FFR for submission, the following must be noted:

1. *Multiple Grant Reporting Using SF 425A Prohibited:* While the FFR is a governmentwide form that is designed for single grant and multiple grant award reporting, the Department's policy is that multiple grant award reporting is not permitted for Department grants. Thus, a Department grantee that is required to submit an FFR in accordance with any of the above referenced selections must complete and submit one FFR for each of its grants. Do not use the FFR attachment (Standard Form 425A), which is available for reporting multiple grants, for reporting on Department grants. As such, references to multiple grant reporting and to the FFR attachment in items 2, 5 and 10 of the FFR are not applicable to Department grantees. With regards to item 1 of the note found in the FFR Instructions, a grantee must complete items 10(a) through 10(o) for each of its grants. The multiple award, multiple grant, and FFR attachment references found in items 2, 5, 6, before 10(a), in item 10(b), before 10(d), before 10(i) and before 10(l) of the Line Item Instructions for the FFR are not applicable to Department grants.
2. *Program Income:* Unless disallowed by statute or regulation, a grantee will complete item 10(m) or 10(n) in accordance with the options or combination of options as provided in 2 CFR Part [200.307](#). A grantee is permitted, in accordance with 2 CFR Part [200.307](#), to add program income to its Federal share to further eligible project or program objectives, use program income to finance the non-Federal share of the project or program; and deduct program income from the Federal share of the total project costs.
3. *Indirect Costs:* A grantee will complete item 11(a) by listing the indirect cost rate type identified on its indirect cost rate agreement, as approved by its cognizant agency for indirect costs.

A Department grantee that does not have an indirect cost rate agreement approved by its cognizant agency for indirect costs, and that is using the Department approved (beyond the 90-day temporary period) temporary indirect cost rate of 10% of budgeted direct salaries and wages, or the de minimis rate of 10% of modified total direct cost (MTDC) must list its indirect cost rate in 11(a) as a Department Temporary Rate or De Minimis Rate. The de minimis rate of 10% of MTDC consists of:

All direct salaries and wages, applicable fringe benefits, materials and supplies, services, travel, and subawards and contracts up to the first \$25,000 of each subaward (i.e., subgrant). MTDC excludes equipment, capital expenditures, charges for patient care, rental costs, tuition remission, scholarships and fellowships, participant support costs and the portion of each subaward in excess of \$25,000. Other items, including contract costs in excess of \$25,000, may be excluded when necessary to avoid a serious inequity in the distribution of indirect costs (see definition of MTDC at [2 CFR § 200.1](#)).

A training program grantee whose recovery of indirect cost limits indirect cost recovery to 8% of MTDC or the grantees negotiated indirect cost rate, whichever is less in accordance with EDGAR § [75.562 \(c\)](#), must list its rate in 11(a) as a Department Training Grant Rate. The 8% limit does not apply to agencies of Indian tribal governments, local governments, and States¹ as defined in [2 CFR § 200.1](#)

A restricted program grantee must list its rate as a Restricted Indirect Cost Rate in 11(a). A restricted program (i.e., programs with statutory supplement-not-supplant requirements) grantee must utilize a restricted indirect cost rate negotiated with its cognizant agency for indirect costs, or may elect to utilize a restricted indirect cost rate of 8% MTDC if their negotiated restricted indirect cost rate calculated under 34 CFR [75.563](#) and [76.564 – 76.569](#), is not less than 8% MTDC. A State or local government² that is a restricted program grantee may not elect to utilize the 8% MTDC rate. Additionally, restricted program grantees may not utilize the de minimis rate, but may utilize the temporary rate until a restricted indirect cost rate is negotiated. If a restricted program grantee elects to utilize the temporary rate, it must list its rate as a Department Temporary Rate in 11(a).

Grantees with indirect cost rates prescribed in program statute or regulation must list their rate as a Rate Required in Program Statute or Regulation in 11(a). Grantees are required to follow program-specific statutory or regulatory requirements that mandate either indirect cost rate type or maximum administrative costs recovery.

For detailed information including restrictions related to temporary, de minimis, training, restricted, and program prescribed indirect cost rates see GAN ATTACHMENT 4.

4. *Supplemental Pages:* If grantees need additional space to report financial information, beyond what is available within the FFR, they should provide supplemental pages. These additional pages must indicate the following information at the top of each page: the PR/Award Number

¹ Note that a State-funded institution of higher education is not considered a “State government” for these purposes; and a Tribal college or university funded by a federally-recognized Tribe is not considered a Tribe for these purposes.

² Note that a State-funded institution of higher education is not considered a “State government” for these purposes.

GAN ATTACHMENT 2

Revised 03/2021

also known as the Federal Identifying Number or FAIN, recipient organization, Unique Entity Identifier, Employer Identification Number (EIN), and period covered by the report.

**AN OVERVIEW OF SINGLE AUDIT REQUIREMENTS OF STATES,
LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, AND NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS**

This GAN ATTACHMENT is **not** applicable to for-profit organizations. For-profit organizations comply with audit requirements specified in block 10 of their Grant Award Notification (GAN).

Summary of Single Audit Requirements for States, Local Governments and Nonprofit Organizations:

1. Single Audit. A non-Federal entity (a State, local government, Indian tribe, Institution of Higher Education (IHE)¹, or nonprofit organization) that expends \$750,000 or more during the non-Federal entity's fiscal year in Federal awards must have a single audit conducted in accordance with 2 CFR 200.501, "Audit Requirements," except when it elects to have a program specific audit conducted.
2. Program-specific audit election. When an auditee expends Federal awards under only one Federal program (excluding research and development (R&D)), and the Federal program's statutes, regulations, or the terms and conditions of the Federal award do not require a financial statement audit of the auditee, the auditee may elect to have a program-specific audit conducted. A program-specific audit may not be elected for R&D unless all of the Federal awards expended were received from the same Federal agency, or the same Federal agency and the same pass-through entity, and that Federal agency, or pass-through entity in the case of a subrecipient, approves in advance a program-specific audit.
3. Exemption when Federal awards expended are less than \$750,000. A non-Federal entity that expends less than \$750,000 during the non-Federal entity's fiscal year in Federal awards is exempt from Federal audit requirements for that year, except as noted in 2 CFR 200.503, but records must be available for review or audit by appropriate officials of the Federal agency, pass-through entity, and Government Accountability Office (GAO). Generally, grant records must be maintained for a period of three years after the date of the final expenditure report ([2 CFR § 200.334](#))
4. Federally Funded Research and Development Centers (FFRDC). Management of an auditee that owns or operates a FFRDC may elect to treat the FFRDC as a separate entity.
5. Report Submission. To meet audit requirements of U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Uniform Guidance: Cost Principles, Audit, and Administrative Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance), grantees must submit all audit documents required by Uniform Guidance 2 CFR 200.512, including Form SF-SAC: Data Collection Form electronically to the Federal Audit Clearinghouse at:

¹ As defined under the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA) section 101.

<https://facides.census.gov/Account/Login.aspx>.

The audit must be completed, and the data collection form and reporting package must be submitted within the earlier of 30 calendar days after receipt of the auditor's report(s), or nine months after the end of the audit period. If the due date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or Federal holiday, the reporting package is due the next business day. Unless restricted by Federal statutes or regulations, the auditee must make copies available for public inspection. Auditees and auditors must ensure that their respective parts of the reporting package do not include protected personally identifiable information. (2 CFR 200.512)

Grantees are strongly urged to obtain the "OMB Compliance Supplement" and to contact their cognizant agency for single audit technical assistance.

The designated cognizant agency for single audit purposes is "the Federal awarding agency that provides the predominant amount of direct funding to the recipient." Grantees should obtain a copy of the OMB Compliance supplement. This supplement will be instructive to both grantees and their auditors. Appendix III of the supplement provides a list of Federal Agency Contacts for Single Audits, including addresses, phone numbers, fax numbers, and e-mail addresses for technical assistance.

For single audit-related questions, if the U.S. Department of Education is the cognizant agency, grantees should contact the Non-Federal Audit Team in the Department's Office of Inspector General, at oinon-federalaudit@ed.gov. Additional resources for single audits are also available on the Non-Federal Audit Team's website at <https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oig/nonfed/index.html>. For programmatic questions, grantees should contact the education program contact shown on the Department's GAN.

Grantees can obtain information on single audits from:

The OMB website at www.omb.gov. Look under Office of Management and Budget (in right column) then click Office of Federal Financial Management (to obtain OMB Compliance Supplement). The SF-SAC: Data Collection Form can be found at the Federal Audit Clearinghouse at: <https://facides.census.gov/Files/2019-2021%20Checklist%20Instructions%20and%20Form.pdf>.

The American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) has illustrative OMB Single Audit report examples that might be of interest to accountants, auditors, or financial staff at www.aicpa.org.

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF PROGRAM INCOME

In projects that generate program income, the recipient calculates the amount of program income according to the guidance given in 2 CFR Part 200.307.

***** IF YOU RECEIVED YOUR GRANT AWARD NOTIFICATION ELECTRONICALLY AND YOU ARE SUBJECT TO ANY OF THE RESTRICTIONS IDENTIFIED BELOW, THE RESTRICTION(S) WILL APPEAR IN BOX 10 ON YOUR GRANT AWARD NOTIFICATION AS A GRANT TERM OR CONDITION OF THE AWARD. *****

Unless checked below as NOT ALLOWED, the recipient may exercise any of the options or combination of options, as provided in 2 CFR Part 200.307, for using program income generated in the course of the recipient's authorized project activities:

_____ Not Allowed Adding program income to funds committed to the project by the Secretary and recipient and using it to further eligible project or program objectives;

_____ Not Allowed Using program income to finance the non-Federal share of the project or program; and

_____ Not Allowed Deducting program income from the total allowable cost to determine the net allowable costs.

TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

The Department of Education adopts the requirements in the Code of Federal Regulations at 2 CFR [175](#) and incorporates those requirements into this grant through this condition. The grant condition specified in 2 CFR [175.15\(b\)](#) is incorporated into this grant with the following changes. Paragraphs a.2.ii.B and b.2. ii. are revised to read as follows:

“a.2.ii.B. Imputed to you or the subrecipient using the standards and due process for imputing the conduct of an individual to an organization that are provided in 34 CFR part 85.”

“b.2. ii. Imputed to the subrecipient using the standards and due process for imputing the conduct of an individual to an organization that are provided in 34 CFR part 85.”

Under this condition, the Secretary may terminate this grant without penalty for any violation of these provisions by the grantee, its employees, or its subrecipients.

**FEDERAL FUNDING ACCOUNTABILITY TRANSPARENCY ACT
REPORTING SUBAWARDS AND EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION**

The Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) is designed to increase transparency and improve the public's access to Federal government information. To this end, FFATA requires that Department of Education (Department) grant recipients:

1. Report **first-tier subawards** made under Federal grants that are funded at \$30,000 or more that meet the reporting conditions as set forth in this grant award term;
2. Report their executives' compensation for all new Federal grants that are funded at \$30,000 and that meet the reporting conditions as set forth in this grant award term; and
3. Report executive compensation data for their **first-tier subrecipients** that meet the reporting conditions as set forth in this grant award term.

For FFATA reporting purposes, the Department grant recipient is the entity listed in box 1 of the Grant Award Notification.

Only **first-tier subawards** made by the Department grant recipient to its **first-tier subrecipients** and the **first-tier subrecipients'** executive compensation are required to be reported in accordance with FFATA.

Subaward, Subrecipient, Recipient, Total Compensation, Executives, and other key terms, are defined within item 5, Definitions, of this grant award term.

This grant award term is issued in accordance with [2 CFR Part 170—Reporting Subaward And Executive Compensation Information](#).

1. Reporting of First-tier Subawards -

a. Applicability and what to report.

Unless you are exempt as provided item 4, Exemptions, of this grant award term, you must report each obligation that **equals or exceeds \$30,000** in Federal funds for a first-tier subaward to a non-Federal entity or Federal agency.

You must report the information about each obligating action that are specified in the submission instructions posted at [FSRS](#).

b. Where and when to report.

The Department grant recipient must report each obligating action described in paragraph **1.a.** of this award term to [FSRS](#).

Report subaward information no later than the end of the month following the month in which the subaward obligation was made. For example, if the obligation was made on November 7, 2020, the obligation must be reported by no later than December 31, 2020.

2. Reporting Total Compensation of the Department's Grant Recipients' Executives -

a. *Applicability and what to report.*

You must report total compensation for each of your five most highly compensated executives for the preceding completed fiscal year, if—

- i The total Federal funding authorized to date under this Federal award **equals or exceeds \$30,000;**
- ii In the preceding fiscal year, you received—
 - A. 80 percent or more of your annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts) and Federal financial assistance subject to the Transparency Act, as defined at [2 CFR 170.320](#) (and subawards), **and**
 - B. \$25,000,000 or more in annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts) and Federal financial assistance subject to the Transparency Act, as defined at [2 CFR 170.320](#) (and subawards); **and**,
 - C. The public does not have access to information about the compensation of the executives through periodic reports filed under section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m(a), 78o(d)) or section 6104 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. (To determine if the public has access to the compensation information, see the U.S. Security and Exchange Commission total compensation filings at [SEC Investor.gov Executive Compensation](#).)

b. *Where and when to report.*

You must report executive total compensation described in paragraph **2.a.** of this grant award term:

- i As part of your registration profile at [SAM.gov](#).
- ii By the end of the month following the month in which this award is made (for example, if the obligation was made on November 7, 2020 the executive compensation must be reported by no later than December 31, 2020), and annually thereafter.

3. Reporting of Total Compensation of Subrecipient Executives –

a. *Applicability and what to report.*

Unless you are exempt as provided in item 4, Exemptions, of this award term, for each first-tier **non-Federal entity** subrecipient under this award, you shall report the names and total compensation of each of the subrecipient's five most highly compensated executives for the subrecipient's preceding completed fiscal year, if—

- i In the subrecipient's preceding fiscal year, the subrecipient received—

- A. 80 percent or more of its annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts) and Federal financial assistance subject to the Transparency Act, as defined at [2 CFR 170.320](#) (and subawards), **and**
 - B. \$25,000,000 or more in annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts) and Federal financial assistance subject to the Transparency Act, as defined at [2 CFR 170.320](#) (and subawards); **and**,
 - C. The public does not have access to information about the compensation of the executives through periodic reports filed under section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m(a), 78o(d)) or section 6104 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. (To determine if the public has access to the compensation information, see the U.S. Security and Exchange Commission total compensation filings at [SEC Investor.gov Executive Compensation](#).)
- b. *Where and when to report.*

You must report subrecipient executive total compensation described in paragraph **3.a.** of this grant award term:

- i. In [FSRS](#). You must include a condition on subawards that requires the subrecipients to timely report the information required under paragraph **3.a.** to you the prime awardee, or in the [SAM.gov](#). Subrecipient executive compensation entered in [SAM.gov](#) by the subrecipient will pre-populate in [FSRS](#), so you do not have to report when subrecipients enter this information in [SAM.gov](#). Subrecipient executive compensation not entered in [SAM.gov](#) by the subrecipient is reported in [FSRS](#) by you the Department grant recipient.
- ii. By the end of the month following the month during which you make the subaward. For example, if the subaward obligation was made on November 7, 2020 the subrecipient's executive compensation must be reported by no later than December 31, 2020.

4. Exemptions –

- a. If, in the previous tax year, you had gross income, from all sources, under \$300,000, you are exempt from the requirements to report:
 - i. Subawards, and
 - ii. The total compensation of the five most highly compensated executives of any **subrecipient**.

5. Definitions -

- a. For purposes of this award term:
 - i. Federal *Agency* means a Federal agency as defined at [5 U.S.C. 551\(1\)](#) and further clarified by [5 U.S.C. 552\(f\)](#).
 - ii. Non-Federal *Entity* means all of the following, as defined in [2 CFR part 25](#):

A Governmental organization, which is a State, local government, or Indian tribe;

A foreign public entity;

A domestic or foreign nonprofit organization; and,

A domestic or foreign for-profit organization

- iii. *Executive* means officers, managing partners, or any other employees in management positions.
- iv. *Obligation*, when used in connection with a non-Federal entity's utilization of funds under a Federal award, means orders placed for property and services, contracts and subawards made, and similar transactions during a given period that require payment by the non-Federal entity during the same or a future period.
- v. *Subaward*:

This term means a legal instrument to provide support for the performance of any portion of the substantive project or program for which you received this award and that you as the recipient award to an eligible subrecipient.

The term does not include your procurement of property and services (such as payments to a contractor, small purchase agreements, vendor agreements, and consultant agreements) that are needed for the benefit of the prime awardee to carry out the project or program (for further explanation, see [2 CFR 200.331](#)). For example, the following are not considered subawards:

Cleaning Vendors: Vendors that are hired by a grantee to clean its facility.

Payroll Services Vendors: Vendors that carryout payroll functions for the grantee.

Information Technology Vendors: Vendors that provide IT support to grant staff.

Payments to individuals that are beneficiaries of Federal programs are not considered subawards.

A subaward may be provided through any legal agreement, including an agreement that you or a subrecipient considers a contract.

- v. *Subrecipient* means a non-Federal entity or Federal agency that:

Receives a subaward from you (the recipient) under this award; and

Is accountable to you for the use of the Federal funds provided by the subaward.

In accordance with its subaward, uses the Federal funds to carry out a program for a public purpose specified in authorizing statute, as opposed to providing goods or services for the benefit of the Department prime awardee.

- vii. *Recipient* means a non-Federal entity that receives a Federal award directly from a Federal awarding agency to carry out an activity under a Federal program. The term recipient does not include subrecipients. See also §200.69 Non-Federal entity.
- viii. *Total compensation* means the cash and noncash dollar value earned by the executive during the recipient's or subrecipient's preceding fiscal year and includes the following (for more information see [17 CFR 229.402\(c\)\(2\)](#)):

Salary and bonus.

Awards of stock, stock options, and stock appreciation rights. Use the dollar amount recognized for financial statement reporting purposes with respect to the fiscal year in accordance with the Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123 (Revised 2004) (FAS 123R), Shared Based Payments.

Earnings for services under non-equity incentive plans. This does not include group life, health, hospitalization, or medical reimbursement plans that do not discriminate in favor of executives and are available generally to all salaried employees.

Change in pension value. This is the change in present value of defined benefit and actuarial pension plans.

Above-market earnings on deferred compensation which is not tax-qualified.

Other compensation, if the aggregate value of all such other compensation (e.g., severance, termination payments, value of life insurance paid on behalf of the employee, perquisites, or property) for the executive exceeds \$10,000.

**SPECIFIC CONDITIONS FOR DISCLOSING
FEDERAL FUNDING IN PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS**

When issuing statements, press releases, requests for proposals, bid solicitations and other documents describing projects or programs funded in whole or in part with Federal money, U.S. Department of Education grantees shall clearly state:

- 1) the percentage of the total costs of the program or project which will be financed with Federal money;
- 2) the dollar amount of Federal funds for the project or program; and
- 3) the percentage and dollar amount of the total costs of the project or program that will be financed by non-governmental sources.

Recipients must comply with these conditions under Division H, Title V, Section 505 of Public Law 116-260, Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021.

**PROHIBITION OF TEXT MESSAGING AND EMAILING WHILE DRIVING
DURING OFFICIAL FEDERAL GRANT BUSINESS**

Federal grant recipients, sub recipients and their grant personnel are prohibited from text messaging while driving a government owned vehicle, or while driving their own privately-owned vehicle during official grant business, or from using government supplied electronic equipment to text message or email when driving.

Recipients must comply with these conditions under Executive Order 13513, "Federal Leadership on Reducing Text Messaging While Driving," October 1, 2009.

REGISTRATION OF UNIQUE ENTITY IDENTIFIER (UEI) NUMBER AND TAXPAYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (TIN) IN THE SYSTEM FOR AWARD MANAGEMENT (SAM)

The U.S. Department of Education (Department) Grants Management System (G5) disburses payments via the U.S. Department of Treasury (Treasury). The U.S. Treasury requires that we include your Tax Payer Identification Number (TIN) with each payment. Therefore, in order to do business with the Department you must have a registered Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) and TIN number with the SAM, the U.S. Federal Government's primary registrant database. If the payee UEI number is different than your grantee UEI number, both numbers must be registered in the SAM. Failure to do so will delay the receipt of payments from the Department.

A TIN is an identification number used by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) in the administration of tax laws. It is issued either by the Social Security Administration (SSA) or by the IRS. A Social Security number (SSN) is issued by the SSA whereas all other TINs are issued by the IRS.

The following are all considered [TINs according to the IRS](#).

- Social Security Number "SSN"
- Employer Identification Number "EIN"
- Individual Taxpayer Identification Number "ITIN"
- Taxpayer Identification Number for Pending U.S. Adoptions "ATIN"
- Preparer Taxpayer Identification Number "PTIN"

If your UEI number is not currently registered with the SAM, you can easily register by going to www.sam.gov. Please allow 3-5 business days to complete the registration process. If you need a new TIN, please allow 2-5 weeks for your TIN to become active. If you need assistance during the registration process, you may contact the SAM Federal Service Desk at 866-606-8220.

If you are currently registered with SAM, you may not have to make any changes. However, please take the time to validate that the TIN associated with your UEI is correct.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the G5 Hotline at 888-336-8930.

SYSTEM FOR AWARD MANAGEMENT AND UNIVERSAL IDENTIFIER REQUIREMENTS**1. Requirement for System for Award Management (SAM)**

Unless you are exempted from this requirement under 2 CFR 25.110, you are, in accordance with your grant program's Notice Inviting Applications, required to maintain an active SAM registration with current information about your organization, including information on your immediate and highest level owner and subsidiaries, as well as on all predecessors that have been awarded a Federal contract or grant within the last three years, if applicable, at all times during which you have an active Federal award or an application or plan under consideration by a Federal awarding agency. To remain registered in the SAM database after your initial registration, you are required to review and update your information in the SAM database on an annual basis from the date of initial registration or subsequent updates to ensure it is current, accurate and complete.

2. Requirement for Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) Numbers

If you are authorized to make subawards under this award, you:

1. Must notify potential subrecipients that they may not receive a subaward from you unless they provided their UEI number to you.
2. May not make a subaward to a subrecipient when the subrecipient fails to provide its UEI number to you.

3. Definitions

For purposes of this award term:

1. System for Award Management (SAM) means the Federal repository into which a recipient must provide information required for the conduct of business as a recipient. Additional information about registration procedures may be found at the SAM internet site (currently at <https://www.sam.gov>).
2. Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) means the identifier assigned by SAM registration to uniquely identify business entities.
3. Recipient means a non-Federal entity that receives a Federal award directly from a Federal awarding agency to carry out an activity under a Federal program. The term recipient does not include subrecipients. See 2 CFR 200.86.
4. Subaward means an award provided by a pass-through entity to a subrecipient for the subrecipient to carry out part of a Federal award received by the pass-through entity. It does not include payments to a contractor or payments to an individual that is a beneficiary of a Federal program. A subaward may be provided through any form of legal agreement, including an agreement that the pass-through entity considers a contract. See 2 CFR 200.92.

5. Subrecipient means a non-Federal entity that receives a subaward from a pass-through entity to carry out part of a Federal program; but does not include an individual that is a beneficiary of such program. A subrecipient may also be a recipient of other Federal awards directly from a Federal awarding agency. See 2 CFR 200.93.

**KEY FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR DISCRETIONARY GRANTS
AWARDED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

The Department expects grantees to administer Department grants in accordance with generally accepted business practices, exercising prudent judgment so as to maintain proper stewardship of taxpayer dollars. This includes using fiscal control and fund accounting procedures that insure proper disbursement of and accounting for Federal funds. In addition, grantees may use grant funds only for obligations incurred during the funding period.

Title 2 of the Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, "Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards," establishes requirements for Federal awards made to non-Federal entities. The Education Department General Administrative Regulations in 34 CFR (EDGAR) 75, 76, 77, 79, 81, 82, 84, 86, 97, 98, and 99 contain additional requirements for administering discretionary grants made by this Department. The most recent version of these regulations may be accessed at the following URLs:

[The Education Department General Administrative Regulations \(EDGAR\)](#)

[2 CFR Part 200 Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards](#)

The information on page 2, "Selected Topics in Administering Department Discretionary Grants," highlights major administrative requirements of 2 CFR Part 200. In addition, a few of the topics discuss requirements that the Department imposes on its discretionary grantees under EDGAR, Part 75 (Direct Grants). The specific sections of 2 CFR Part 200 and of EDGAR that address the topics discussed are shown in parentheses. The Department urges grantees to read the full text of these and other topics in EDGAR and in 2 CFR Part 200.

Grantees are reminded that a particular grant might be subject to additional requirements of the authorizing statute for the program that awarded the grant and/or any regulations issued by the program office. Grantees should become familiar with those requirements as well, because program-specific requirements might differ from those in 2 CFR Part 200 and in EDGAR.

The Department recommends that the project director and the fiscal management staff of a grantee organization communicate frequently with each other about the grant budget. Doing so will help to assure that you use Federal funds only for those expenditures associated with activities that conform to the goals and objectives approved for the project.

Grantees may direct any questions regarding the topics discussed on page 2, "Selected Topics in Administering Department Discretionary Grants," or about any other aspect of administering your grant award to the Department program staff person named in Block 3 of the Grant Award Notification.

SELECTED TOPICS IN ADMINISTERING DEPARTMENT DISCRETIONARY GRANTS**I. Financial Management Systems (2 CFR Part 200.302)**

In general, grantees are required to have financial management systems that:

- * provide for accurate, current, and complete disclosure of results regarding the use of funds under grant projects;
- * provide adequate source documentation for Federal and non-Federal funds used under grant projects;
- * contain procedures to determine the allowability, allocability, and reasonableness of obligations and expenditures made by the grantee; and
- * enable the grantee to maintain effective internal control and fund accountability procedures, e.g., requiring separation of functions so that the person who makes obligations for the grantee is not the same person who signs the checks to disburse the funds for those obligations.

State systems must account for funds in accordance with State laws and procedures that apply to the expenditure of and the accounting for a State's own funds. A State's procedures, as well as those of its subrecipients and cost-type contractors, must be sufficient to permit the preparation of reports that may be required under the award as well as provide the tracing of expenditures to a level adequate to establish that award funds have not been used in violation of any applicable statutory restrictions or prohibitions.

II. Federal Payment (2 CFR Part 200.305)

Under this part --

- * the Department pays grantees in advance of their expenditures if the grantee demonstrates a willingness and ability to minimize the time between the transfer of funds to the grantee and the disbursement of the funds by the grantee;
- * grantees repay to the Federal government interest earned on advances; and
- * grantees, generally, must maintain advance payments of Federal awards in interest bearing accounts.

In general, grantees should make payment requests frequently, only for small amounts sufficient to meet the cash needs of the immediate future.

The Department has recently encountered situations where grantees failed to request funds until long after the grantee actually expended its own funds for the costs of its grant. Grantees need to be aware that, by law, Federal funds are available for grantees to draw down for only a limited period of time, after which the funds revert to the U.S. Treasury. In some cases grantees have requested funds too late for the Department to be able to pay the grantees for legitimate costs incurred during their project periods.

GAN ENCLOSURE 1

Revised 03/2021

The Department urges financial managers to regularly monitor requests for payment under their grants to assure that Federal funds are drawn from the Department G5 Payment System at the time those funds are needed for payments to vendors and employees.

III. Personnel (EDGAR §§ 75.511-75.519 and 2 CFR Part 200 Subpart D and E)

The rules governing personnel costs are located in EDGAR Part 75 and 2 CFR Part 200 Subparts D and E. Part 75 covers issues such as paying consultants with grant funds, prohibiting dual compensation of staff, and waiving the requirement for a full-time project director. The rules clarifying changes in key project staff are located in 2 CFR Part 200.308 (c)(2). General rules governing reimbursement of salaries and compensation for staff working on grant projects are addressed in the cost principles in 2 CFR Part 200 Subpart D and E. In all cases, payments of any type to personnel must be supported by complete and accurate records of employee time and effort. For those employees that work on multiple functions or separately funded programs or projects, the grantee must also maintain time distribution records to support the allocation of employee salaries among each function and separately funded program or project.

IV. Cost Principles (2 CFR Part 200 Subpart E)

All costs incurred under any grant are subject to the cost principles found in 2 CFR Part 200 Subpart E. The cost principles provide lists of selected items of allowable and unallowable costs, and must be used in determining the allowable costs of work performed under the grant.

V. Procurement Standards (2 CFR Part 200.317-327)

Under 2 CFR Part 200.317, States are required to follow the procurement rules the States have established for purchases funded by non-Federal sources. When procuring goods and services for a grant's purposes, all other grantees may follow their own procurement procedures, but only to the extent that those procedures meet the minimum requirements for procurement specified in the regulations. These requirements include written competition procedures and codes of conduct for grantee staff, as well as requirements for cost and price analysis, record-keeping and contractor compliance with certain Federal laws and regulations. These regulations also require grantees to include certain conditions in contracts and subcontracts, as mandated by the regulations and statutes.

VI. Indirect Costs (EDGAR §§75.560-564 and 2 CFR Part 200.414)

In addition to the information presented below, see GAN ATTACHMENT 4 for additional information including restrictions related to temporary, de minimis, training, restricted, and program prescribed indirect cost rates.

A. Unrestricted Indirect Cost Rate

To utilize an unrestricted indirect cost rate, a grantee must have an indirect cost agreement with its cognizant agency, submit an indirect cost rate proposal to its cognizant agency for indirect

GAN ENCLOSURE 1

Revised 03/2021

costs (cognizant agency) within 90 days after the award of this grant or elect to utilize the de minimis rate under 2 CFR § 200.414(f) or the temporary indirect cost rate (subject to limitations described below).

The grantee must provide proof of its negotiated indirect cost rate agreement to the Department as soon as it has signed such an agreement with its cognizant agency.

B. Temporary Indirect Cost Rate

A grantee that does not have a current negotiated indirect cost rate agreement may recover indirect costs at a temporary rate, which is limited to 10% of budgeted direct salaries and wages (See 34 CFR § 75.560(c)); or it may choose not to charge indirect costs to the grant. The temporary rate can only be used for 90 days unless the exceptional circumstances apply under 34 CFR § 75.560(d)(2).

If the grantee has not submitted its indirect cost proposal to its cognizant agency within the 90-day period, it may no longer recover indirect costs utilizing the temporary indirect cost rate until it has negotiated an indirect cost rate agreement with its cognizant agency. Once a grantee obtains a federally recognized indirect cost rate that is applicable to this grant, the grantee may use that indirect cost rate to claim indirect cost reimbursement.

C. De minimis Indirect Cost Rate

Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs), federally-recognized Indian Tribes, State and Local Governments¹ receiving less than \$35 million in direct federal funding, and nonprofit organizations, if they do not have a current negotiated (including provisional) rate, and are not subject to the Department's training rate or restricted rate (supplement-not-supplant provisions) may elect to charge a de minimis indirect cost rate of 10% of modified total direct costs (MTDC). This rate may be used indefinitely.

MTDC consists of all direct salaries and wages, applicable fringe benefits, materials and supplies, services, travel, and subawards and contracts up to the first \$25,000 of each subaward (i.e., subgrant). MTDC excludes equipment, capital expenditures, charges for patient care, rental costs, tuition remission, scholarships and fellowships, participant support costs and the portion of each subaward in excess of \$25,000. Other items, including contract costs in excess of \$25,000, may be excluded when necessary to avoid a serious inequity in the distribution of indirect costs (see definition of MTDC at 2 CFR § 200.1).

Additionally, the de minimis rate may not be used by grantees that are subject to the Department's training indirect cost rate (34 CFR § 75.562) or restricted indirect cost rate. The de minimis rate may be used indefinitely. However, if a grantee chooses to use the de minimis rate to recover indirect costs, it must do so for all of its Federal awards until such time as the grantee negotiates an indirect cost rate with its cognizant agency. Once a grantee obtains a federally recognized indirect cost rate that is applicable to this grant, the grantee may use that indirect cost rate to claim indirect cost reimbursement.

¹ Note that a State-funded institution of higher education is not considered a "State government" for these purposes.

D. Programs with a Supplement-not-supplant requirement (restricted indirect cost rate)

A restricted program (i.e., programs with statutory supplement-not-supplant requirements) grantee must utilize a restricted indirect cost rate negotiated with its cognizant agency for indirect costs, or may elect to utilize a restricted indirect cost rate of 8% MTDC if their negotiated restricted indirect cost rate calculated under 34 CFR 75.563 and 76.564 – 76.569, is not less than 8% MTDC. A State or local government² that is a restricted program grantee may not elect to utilize the 8% MTDC rate. Additionally, restricted program grantees may not utilize the de minimis rate, but may utilize the temporary rate until a restricted indirect cost rate is negotiated.

E. Training Grant Indirect Cost Rate

If the grantee is a training grant recipient and is not a State, local, or Tribal government³, the grantee must negotiate a rate under 34 CFR 75.562. This provision limits indirect cost recovery to 8% of modified total direct costs or the grantees negotiated indirect cost rate, whichever is less.

The recovery using the training grant indirect cost rate is subject to the following limitations:

- i. The lesser of the 8% indirect cost rate or negotiated indirect cost rate also applies to sub-awards that fund training.
- ii. The 8% limit does not apply to agencies of Indian tribal governments, local governments, and States as defined in 2 CFR § 200.1, respectively.
- iii. Indirect costs in excess of the 8% limit may not be charged directly, used to satisfy matching or cost-sharing requirements, or charged to another Federal award.
- iv. A grantee using the training rate of 8% is required to have documentation available for audit that shows that its negotiated indirect cost rate is at least 8%.

F. Program-Specific Indirect Cost Rate

Grantees are required to follow program-specific statutory or regulatory requirements that mandate either indirect cost rate type or maximum administrative costs recovery instead of the general requirements described here.

VII. Audit Requirements (2 CFR Part 200 Subpart F)

2 CFR 200 Subpart F requires that grantees that are non-Federal entities (a State, local government, Indian tribe, IHE, or nonprofit organization that carries out a Federal award as a recipient or subrecipient) obtain a non-Federal audit of their expenditures under their Federal grants if the grantee expends more than \$750,000 in Federal funds in one fiscal year. 2 CFR Part 200 Subpart F contains the requirements imposed on grantees for

² Note that a State-funded institution of higher education is not considered a “State government” for these purposes.

³ Note that a State-funded institution of higher education is not considered a “State government” for these purposes; and a Tribal college or university funded by a federally-recognized Tribe is not considered a Tribe for these purposes.

GAN ENCLOSURE 1

Revised 03/2021

audits done in connection with the law.

The Department recommends hiring auditors who have specific experience in auditing Federal awards under the regulations and the Compliance Supplement.

VIII. Other Considerations

Some other topics of financial management covered in 2 CFR Part 200 that might affect particular grants include program income (2 CFR Part 200.307), cost sharing or matching (2 CFR Part 200.306), property management requirements for equipment and other capital expenditures (2 CFR Parts 200.313, 200.439).

MEMORANDUM TO ED DISCRETIONARY GRANTEES

You are receiving this memorandum to remind you of Federal requirements, found in 2 CFR Part [200](#), *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements*, regarding cash drawdowns under your grant account.

For any cash that you draw from your Department of Education (*the Department*) grant account, you must:

- draw down only as much cash as is necessary to meet the immediate needs of the grant project;
- keep to the minimum the time between drawing down the funds and paying them out for grant activities; and
- return to the Government the interest earned on grant funds deposited in interest-bearing bank accounts except for a small amount of interest earned each year that your entity is allowed to keep to reimburse itself for administrative expenses).

In order to meet these requirements, you are urged to:

- take into account the need to coordinate the timing of drawdowns with prior internal clearances (e.g., by boards, directors, or other officials) when projecting immediate cash needs so that funds drawn down from ED do not stay in a bank account for extended periods of time while waiting for approval;
- monitor the fiscal activity (drawdowns and payments) under your grant on a continuous basis;
- plan carefully for cash flow in your grant project during the budget period and review project cash requirements before each drawdown; and
- pay out grant funds for project activities as soon as it is practical to do so after receiving cash from the Department.

Keep in mind that the Department monitors cash drawdown activity for all grants. Department staff will contact grantees who appear to have drawn down excessive amounts of cash under one or more grants during the fiscal quarter to discuss the particular situation. For the purposes of drawdown monitoring, the Department will contact grantees who have drawn down 50% or more of the grant in the first quarter, 80% or more in the second quarter, and/or 100% of the cash in the third quarter of the budget period. However, even amounts less than these thresholds could still represent excessive drawdowns for your particular grant activities in any particular quarter. Grantees determined to have drawn down excessive cash will be required to return the excess funds to the Department, along with any associated earned interest, until such time as the money is legitimately needed to pay for grant activities. If you need assistance with returning funds and interest, please contact the Department's G5 Hotline by calling 1-888-336-8930.

Grantees that do not follow Federal cash management requirements and/or consistently appear on the Department's reports of excessive drawdowns could be:

- subjected to specific award conditions or designated as a "high-risk" grantee [2 CFR Part [200.208](#) and 2 CFR [3474.10](#)], which could mean being placed on a "cash-reimbursement" payment method (i.e., a grantee would experience the inconvenience of having to pay for grant activities with its own money and waiting to be reimbursed by the Department afterwards);

GAN ENCLOSURE 2

Revised 03/2021

- subject to further corrective action;
- denied selection for funding on future ED grant applications [EDGAR [75.217\(d\)\(3\)\(ii\)](#)]; and/or
- debarred or suspended from receiving future Federal awards from any executive agency of the Federal government.

You are urged to read 2 CFR Part 200.[305](#) to learn more about Federal requirements related to grant payments and to determine how to apply these requirements to any subgrantees. You are urged to make copies of this memorandum and share it with all affected individuals within your organization.

THE USE OF GRANT FUNDS FOR CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

You are receiving this memorandum to remind you that grantees must take into account the following factors when considering the use of grant funds for conferences and meetings:

- Before deciding to use grant funds to attend or host a meeting or conference, a grantee should:
 - Ensure that attending or hosting a conference or meeting is consistent with its approved application and is reasonable and necessary to achieve the goals and objectives of the grant;
 - Ensure that the primary purpose of the meeting or conference is to disseminate technical information, (e.g., provide information on specific programmatic requirements, best practices in a particular field, or theoretical, empirical, or methodological advances made in a particular field; conduct training or professional development; plan/coordinate the work being done under the grant); and
 - Consider whether there are more effective or efficient alternatives that can accomplish the desired results at a lower cost, for example, using webinars or video conferencing.
- Grantees must follow all applicable statutory and regulatory requirements in determining whether costs are reasonable and necessary, especially the Cost Principles for Federal grants set out at 2 CFR Part 200 Subpart E of the, “Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards.” In particular, remember that:
 - Federal grant funds cannot be used to pay for alcoholic beverages; and
 - Federal grant funds cannot be used to pay for entertainment, which includes costs for amusement, diversion, and social activities.
- Grant funds may be used to pay for the costs of attending a conference. Specifically, Federal grant funds may be used to pay for conference fees and travel expenses (transportation, per diem, and lodging) of grantee employees, consultants, or experts to attend a conference or meeting if those expenses are reasonable and necessary to achieve the purposes of the grant.
 - When planning to use grant funds for attending a meeting or conference, grantees should consider how many people should attend the meeting or conference on their behalf. The number of attendees should be reasonable and necessary to accomplish the goals and objectives of the grant.
- A grantee hosting a meeting or conference may not use grant funds to pay for food for conference attendees unless doing so is necessary to accomplish legitimate meeting or conference business.
 - A working lunch is an example of a cost for food that might be allowable under a Federal grant if attendance at the lunch is needed to ensure the full participation by conference attendees in essential discussions and speeches concerning the purpose of the conference and to achieve the goals and objectives of the project.
- A meeting or conference hosted by a grantee and charged to a Department grant must not be promoted as a U.S. Department of Education conference. This means that the seal of the U.S. Department of Education must not be used on conference materials or signage without Department approval.

GAN ENCLOSURE 3

Revised 03/2021

- All meeting or conference materials paid for with grant funds must include appropriate disclaimers, such as the following:

The contents of this (insert type of publication; e.g., book, report, film) were developed under a grant from the Department of Education. However, those contents do not necessarily represent the policy of the Department of Education, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government.
- Grantees are strongly encouraged to contact their project officer with any questions or concerns about whether using grant funds for a meeting or conference is allowable prior to committing grant funds for such purposes.
 - A short conversation could help avoid a costly and embarrassing mistake.
- Grantees are responsible for the proper use of their grant awards and may have to repay funds to the Department if they violate the rules on the use of grant funds, including the rules for meeting- and conference-related expenses.

**MEMORANDUM TO REMIND DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION GRANTEEES OF EXISTING CASH
MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS CONCERNING PAYMENTS**

The Department of Education (Department) requires that its grantees adhere to existing cash management requirements concerning payments and will ensure that their subgrantees are also aware of these policies by providing them relevant information. A grantee's failure to comply with cash management requirements may result in an improper payment determination by the Department in accordance with the [Payment Integrity Information Act \(PIIA\) of 2019](#).

There are three categories of payment requirements that apply to the drawdown of funds from grant accounts at the Department. The first two types of payments are subject to the requirements in the Treasury Department regulations implementing the Cash Management Improvement Act (CMIA) of 1990, 31 U.S.C.6513, and the third is subject to the requirements in the *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance) at 2 CFR part 200,¹ as follows:

1. Payments to a State under programs that are covered by a State's Treasury State Agreement (TSA);
2. Payments to States under programs that are not covered by a TSA; and
3. Payments to other non-Federal entities, including nonprofit organizations and local governments.

CMIA Requirements Applicable to Programs included in a TSA

Generally, under the Treasury Department regulations implementing the CMIA, only major assistance programs (large-dollar programs meeting thresholds in 31 CFR § 205.5) are included in a State's written TSA. See 31 CFR § 205, subpart A. Programs included in a TSA must use approved funding techniques and both States and the Federal government are subject to interest liabilities for late payments. State interest liabilities accrue from the day federal funds are credited to a State account to the day the State pays out the federal funds for federal assistance program purposes. 31 CFR § 205.15. If a State makes a payment under a Federal assistance program before funds for that payment have been transferred to the State, Federal Government interest liabilities accrue from the date of the State payment until the Federal funds for that payment have been deposited to the State account. 31 CFR § 205.14.

CMIA Requirements Applicable to Programs Not Included in a TSA

Payments to States under programs not covered by a State's TSA are subject to subpart B of Treasury's regulations in 31 CFR § 205. These regulations provide that a State must minimize the time between the drawdown of funds from the federal government and their disbursement for approved program activities. The timing and amount of funds transfers must be kept to a minimum and be as close as is administratively feasible to a State's actual cash outlay for direct program costs and the proportionate share of any allowable indirect costs. 31 CFR § 205.33(a). States should exercise sound cash management in funds transfers to subgrantees.

¹ The Department adopted the Uniform Guidance as regulations of the Department at 2 CFR part 3474.

Under subpart B, neither the States nor the Department owe interest to the other for late payments. 31 CFR § 205.33(b). However, if a State or a Federal agency is consistently late in making payments, Treasury can require the program to be included in the State's TSA. 31 CFR § 205.35.

Fund transfer requirements for grantees other than State governments and subgrantees

The transfer of Federal program funds to grantees other than States and to subgrantees are subject to the payment and interest accrual requirements in the Uniform Guidance at 2 CFR § 200.305(b). These requirements are like those in subpart B of the Treasury Department regulations in 31 CFR part 205, requiring that "payments methods must minimize the time elapsing between the transfer of funds from the United States Treasury or the pass-through entity and the disbursement by the non-Federal entity." 2 CFR § 200.305(b) introduction.

The Federal Government and pass-through entities must make payments in advance of expenditures by grantees and subgrantees if these non-Federal entities maintain, or demonstrate the willingness to maintain, written procedures "that minimize the time elapsing between the transfer of funds and disbursement by the non-Federal entity, and financial management systems that meet the standards for fund control and accountability." 2 CFR § 200.305(b)(1). If a grantee or subgrantee cannot meet the criteria for advance payments, a Federal agency or pass-through entity can pay that entity through reimbursement. See 2 CFR § 200.305(b)(1) and (4) for more detailed description of the payment requirements and the standards for requiring that payments be made by reimbursement.

Non-Federal entities must maintain advance payments in interest bearing accounts unless certain conditions exist. See 2 CFR § 200.305(b)(8) for those conditions. The requirements regarding interest accrual and remittance follow:

Grantees and subgrantees must annually remit interest earned on federal advance payments except that interest earned amounts up to \$500 per year may be retained for administrative expense. Any additional interest earned on Federal advance payments deposited in interest-bearing accounts must be remitted annually to the Department of Health and Human Services Payment Management System (PMS) through an electronic medium using either Automated Clearing House (ACH) network or a Fedwire Funds Service payment. 2 CFR § 200.305(b)(9)(i) and (ii).

1. When returning interest through ACH Direct Deposit or Fedwire, grantees must include the following in their return transaction:
 - PMS Account Number (PAN). NOTE: The PAN is the same series of alpha-numeric characters used for payment request purposes (e.g.: C1234G1).
 - PMS document number.
 - The reason for the return (e.g., interest, part interest part other, etc.).
 - An explanation stating that the refund is for interest payable to the Department of Health and Human Services, and the grant number(s) for which the interest was earned.
- a. U.S. Department of Education grantees are generally located and operate domestically and return interest domestically. Below is PSC ACH account information for interest returned

GAN ENCLOSURE 4

Revised 03/2021

domestically. For international ACH interest returned, account information is available at: Returning Funds/Interest.

- PSC ACH Routing Number is: 051036706
 - PSC DFI Accounting Number: 303000
 - Bank Name: Credit Gateway - ACH Receiver
 - Location: St. Paul, MN
- b. Service charges may be incurred from a grantee's financial institution when a Fedwire to return interest is initiated. For FedWire returns, Fedwire account information is as follows:
- Fedwire Routing Number: 021030004
 - Agency Location Code (ALC): 75010501
 - Bank Name: Federal Reserve Bank
 - Treas NYC/Funds Transfer Division
 - Location: New York, NY
2. Interest may be returned by check using only the U.S. Postal Service; however, returning interest via check may take 4-6 weeks for processing before a check payment may be applied to the appropriate PMS account.
- a. Interests returned by check are to be mailed (USPS only) to:
- HHS Program Support Center
PO Box 979132
St. Louis, MO 63197
- A brief statement explaining the nature of the return must be included.
- b. To return interest on a grant not paid through the PMS, make the check payable to the Department of Health and Human Services, and include the following with the check:
- An explanation stating that the refund is for interest
 - The name of the awarding agency
 - The grant number(s) for which the interest was earned
 - The return should be made payable to: Department of Health and Human Services.
3. For detailed information about how to return interest, visit the PSC Returning Funds/Interest page at: [Returning Funds/Interest](#)

Grantees, including grantees that act as pass-through entities and subgrantees have other responsibilities regarding the use of Federal funds. For example, all grantees and subgrantees must have procedures for determining the allowability of costs for their awards. We highlight the following practices related to the oversight of subgrantee compliance with the financial management requirements in the Uniform Guidance that will assist State grantees (pass-through entities) in meeting their monitoring responsibilities. Under 2 CFR § 200.332, pass-through entities must –

GAN ENCLOSURE 4

Revised 03/2021

1. Evaluate each subrecipient's risk of noncompliance with Federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the subaward for purposes of determining the appropriate subrecipient monitoring.
2. Monitor the performance and fiscal activities of the subrecipient to ensure that the subaward is used for authorized purposes, in compliance with Federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the subaward; and that subaward performance goals are achieved.

A small number of Department grant programs have program-specific cash management and payment requirements based on the authorizing legislation or program regulations. These program-specific requirements may supplement or override general cash management or payment requirements. If you have any questions about your specific grant, please contact the Education Program Contact listed in Block 3 of your Grant Award Notification.

**RECIPIENTS OF DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION GRANTS AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ON CASH MANAGEMENT**

Q What are the Federal Laws and Regulations Regarding Payments to the States?

A The *Cash Management Improvement Act of 1990 (CMIA)* establishes interest liabilities for the Federal and State governments when the Federal Government makes payments to the States. See 31 U.S.C. 3335 and 6503. The implementing regulations are in Title 31 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 205, https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title31/31cfr205_main_02.tpl. Non-Federal entities other than States follow the rules on Federal payments set out in 2 CFR 200.305.

Q What is a Treasury-State Agreement (TSA)?

A A TSA documents the accepted funding techniques and methods for calculating interest agreed upon by the U.S. Department of the Treasury (Treasury) and a State. It identifies the Federal assistance programs that are subject to interest liabilities under the CMIA. The CMIA regulations specify a number of different funding techniques that may be used by a State but a State can negotiate with the Treasury Department to establish a different funding technique for a particular program. A TSA is effective until terminated and, if a state does not have a TSA, payments to the State are subject to the default techniques in the regulations that Treasury determines are appropriate.

Q What are the CMIA requirements for a program subject to a Treasury-State Agreement?

A Payments to a State under a program of the Department are subject to the interest liability requirements of the CMIA if the program is included in the State's Treasury-State Agreement (TSA) with the Department of Treasury. If the Federal government is late in making a payment to a State, it owes interest to the State from the time the State spent its funds to pay for expenditure until the time the Federal government deposits funds to the State's account to pay for the expenditure. Conversely, if a State is late in making a payment under a program of the Department, the State owes interest to the Federal government from the time the Federal government deposited the funds to the State's account until the State uses those funds to make a payment. For more information, GAN Enclosure 4.

Q What are the CMIA requirements for a program that is not subject to a Treasury-State Agreement?

A If a program is not included in the State's TSA, neither the State nor the Federal government are liable for interest for making late payments. However, both the Federal government and the State must minimize the time elapsing between the date the State requests funds and the date that the funds are deposited to the State's accounts. The State is also required to minimize the time elapsed between the date it receives funds from the Federal government and the date it makes a payment under the program. Also, the Department must minimize the amount of funds transferred to a State to only that needed to meet the immediate cash needs of the State. The timing and amount of funds transferred must be as close as is administratively feasible to a State's actual cash outlay for direct program costs and the proportionate share of any allowable indirect costs.

Q What if there is no TSA?

GAN ATTACHMENT 5

Revised 03/2021

- A** When a State does not have a TSA in effect, default procedures in 31 CFR, part 205 that the Treasury Department determines appropriate apply. The default procedures will prescribe efficient funds transfer procedures consistent with State and Federal law and identify the covered Federal assistance programs and designated funding techniques.
- Q Who is responsible for Cash Management?**
- A** Grantees and subgrantees that receive grant funds under programs of the Department are responsible for maintaining internal controls regarding the management of Federal program funds under the Uniform Guidance in 2 CFR 200.302 and 200.303. In addition, grantees are responsible for ensuring that subgrantees are aware of the cash management and requirements in 2 CFR part 200, subpart D.
- Q Who is responsible for monitoring cash drawdowns to ensure compliance with cash management policies?**
- A** Recipients must monitor their own cash drawdowns **and** those of their subrecipients to assure substantial compliance to the standards of timing and amount of advances.
- Q How soon may I draw down funds from the G5 grants management system?**
- A** Grantees are required to minimize the amount of time between the drawdown and the expenditure of funds from their bank accounts. (See 2 CFR 200.305(b).) Funds must be drawn only to meet a grantee's immediate cash needs for each individual grant. The G5 screen displays the following message:
- By submitting this payment request, I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that the request is based on true, complete, and accurate information. I further certify that the expenditures and disbursements made with these funds are for the purposes and objectives set forth in the applicable Federal award or program participation agreement, and that the organization on behalf of which this submission is being made is and will remain in compliance with the terms and conditions of that award or program participation agreement. I am aware that the provision of any false, fictitious, or fraudulent information, or the omission of any material fact, may subject me, and the organization on behalf of which this submission is being made, to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties for fraud, false statements, false claims, or other violations. (U.S. Code Title 18, Section 1001; Title 20, Section 1097; and Title 31, Sections 3729-3730 and 3801-3812)**
- Q How may I use Federal funds?**
- A** Federal funds must be used as specified in the Grant Award Notification (GAN) and the approved application or State plan for allowable direct costs of the grant and an allocable portion of indirect costs, if authorized.
- Q What are the consequences to recipients/subrecipients for not complying with terms of the grant award?**
- A** If a recipient or subrecipient materially fails to comply with any term of an award, whether stated in a Federal statute or regulation, including those in 2 CFR part 200, an assurance, the GAN, or elsewhere, the awarding agency may in accordance with 2 CFR 200.339 take one or more of the following actions:

GAN ATTACHMENT 5

Revised 03/2021

1. Temporarily withhold cash payments pending correction of the deficiency by the non-Federal entity or more severe enforcement action by the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity.
2. Disallow (that is, deny both use of funds and any applicable matching credit for) all or part of the cost of the activity not in compliance.
3. Wholly or partly suspend or terminate the Federal award.
4. Initiate suspension or debarment proceedings as authorized under 2 CFR part 180 and Federal award agency regulations (or in the case of a pass-through be initiated by a Federal awarding agency).
5. Withhold further Federal awards for the project or program.
6. Take other remedies that may be legally available.

Q Who is responsible for determining the amount of interest owed to the Federal government?

A As set forth in 31 CFR 205.9, the method used to calculate and document interest liabilities is included in the State's TSA. A non-State entity must maintain advances of Federal funds in interest-bearing accounts unless certain limited circumstance apply and remit interest earned on those funds to the Department of Health and Human Services, Payment Management System annually. See 2 CFR 200.305.

Q What information should accompany my interest payment?

A In accordance with 2 CFR 200.305(b)(9), interest in excess of \$500.00 earned on Federal advance payments deposited in interest-bearing accounts must be remitted annually to the Department of Health and Human Services Payment Management System (PMS) through an electronic medium using either Automated Clearing House (ACH) network or a Fedwire Funds Service payment.

For returning interest on Federal awards paid through PMS, the refund should:

- (a) Provide an explanation stating that the refund is for interest;
- (b) List the PMS Payee Account Number(s) (PANs);
- (c) List the Federal award number(s) for which the interest was earned; and
- (d) Make returns payable to: Department of Health and Human Services.

For returning interest on Federal awards not paid through PMS, the refund should:

- (a) Provide an explanation stating that the refund is for interest;
- (b) Include the name of the awarding agency;
- (c) List the Federal award number(s) for which the interest was earned; and
- (d) Make returns payable to: Department of Health and Human Services.

For additional information about returning interest see GAN ATTACHMENT 4.

Q Are grant recipients/subrecipients automatically permitted to draw funds in advance of the time they need to disburse funds in order to liquidate obligations?

A The payment requirements in 2 CFR 200.305(b) authorize a grantee or subgrantee to request funds in advance of expenditures if certain conditions are met. However, if those conditions are not met, the Department and a pass-through agency may place a payee on reimbursement.

GAN ATTACHMENT 5

Revised 03/2021

- Q For formula grant programs such as ESEA Title I, for which States distribute funds to LEAs, may States choose to pay LEAs on a reimbursement basis?**
- A** A subgrantee must be paid in advance if it meets the standards for advance payments in 2 CFR 200.305(b)(1) but if the subgrantee cannot meet those standards, the State may put the subgrantee on reimbursement payment. See 2 CFR 200.305(b).
- Q Will the Department issue special procedures in advance if G5 plans to shut down for 3 days or more?**
- A** Yes, before any shutdown of G5 lasting three days or more, the Department issues special guidance for drawing down funds during the shut down. The guidance will include cash management improvement act procedures for States and certain State institutions of higher education and procedures for grants (including Pell grants) that are not subject to CMIA.

Exhibit C

S423A220055 - 23B

Amanda Winkelsas

The Research Foundation for SUNY on behalf of U. at Buffalo

520 Lee Entrance

UB Commons-Suite 211

Amherst, NY 14228

S423A220055 - 23 - 23B

Jeffrey Schieder
The Research Foundation for SUNY on behalf of U. at Buffalo
The UB Commons
520 Lee Entrance, Suite 211
Amherst, NY 14228



**US Department of Education
Washington, D.C. 20202**

GRANT AWARD NOTIFICATION

1	RECIPIENT NAME The Research Foundation for SUNY on behalf of U. at Buffalo The UB Commons 520 Lee Entrance, Suite 211 Amherst, NY 14228	2	AWARD INFORMATION <table> <tr> <td>PR/AWARD NUMBER</td><td>S423A220055 - 23B</td></tr> <tr> <td>ACTION NUMBER</td><td>6</td></tr> <tr> <td>ACTION TYPE</td><td>Revision</td></tr> <tr> <td>AWARD TYPE</td><td>Discretionary</td></tr> </table>	PR/AWARD NUMBER	S423A220055 - 23B	ACTION NUMBER	6	ACTION TYPE	Revision	AWARD TYPE	Discretionary		
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**US Department of Education
Washington, D.C. 20202**

S423A220055 - 23B

GRANT AWARD NOTIFICATION

FUND CODE	FUNDING YEAR	AWARD YEAR	ORG. CODE	CATEGORY	LIMITATION	ACTIVITY	CFDA	OBJECT CLASS	AMOUNT
0204A	2023	2023	ES000000	B	UE1	000	423	4101C	\$110,870.00
10	PR/AWARD NUMBER:			S423A220055 - 23B					
	RECIPIENT NAME:			The Research Foundation for SUNY on behalf of U. at Buffalo					
	GRANTEE NAME:			RESEARCH FOUNDATION FOR THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK, THE 520 LEE ENTRANCE STE 211, AMHERST, NY 14228 - 2577					
	PROGRAM INDIRECT COST TYPE:			Restricted					
	PROJECT INDIRECT COST RATE:			8%					
	TERMS AND CONDITIONS								
(1) THIS ACTION INCREASES THE AMOUNT OF FUNDS AUTHORIZED FOR THE CURRENT BUDGET PERIOD AND PERFORMANCE PERIOD AS SHOWN IN BLOCK 7.									
					_____		_____		
					AUTHORIZING OFFICIAL		DATE		

EXPLANATION OF BLOCKS ON THE GRANT AWARD NOTIFICATION

For Discretionary, Formula and Block Grants (See Block 2 of the Notification)

- 1. RECIPIENT NAME** - The legal name of the recipient or name of the primary organizational unit that was identified in the application, state plan or other documents required to be submitted for funding by the grant program.
- 2. AWARD INFORMATION** - Unique items of information that identify this notification.
 - PR/AWARD NUMBER** - A unique, identifying number assigned by the Department to each application. On funded applications, this is commonly known as the "grant number" or "document number." The PR/Award Number is also known as the Federal Award Identifying Number, or FAIN.
 - ACTION NUMBER** - A numeral that represents the cumulative number of steps taken by the Department to date to establish or modify the award through fiscal or administrative means. Action number "01" will always be "NEW AWARD"
 - ACTION TYPE** - The nature of this notification (e.g., NEW AWARD, CONTINUATION, REVISION, ADMINISTRATIVE)
 - AWARD TYPE** - The particular assistance category in which funding for this award is provided, i.e., DISCRETIONARY, FORMULA, or BLOCK. If this award was made under a Research and Development grant program, the terms RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT will appear under DISCRETIONARY, FORMULA OR BLOCK.
- 3. PROJECT STAFF** - This block contains the names and telephone numbers of the U.S. Department of Education and recipient staff who are responsible for project direction and oversight.
 - *RECIPIENT PROJECT DIRECTOR** - The recipient staff person responsible for administering the project. This person represents the recipient to the U.S. Department of Education.
 - EDUCATION PROGRAM CONTACT** - The U.S. Department of Education staff person responsible for the programmatic, administrative and business management concerns of the Department.
 - EDUCATION PAYMENT CONTACT** - The U.S. Department of Education staff person responsible for payments or questions concerning electronic drawdown and financial expenditure reporting.
- 4. PROJECT TITLE AND CFDA NUMBER** - Identifies the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) subprogram title and the associated subprogram number.
- 5. * KEY PERSONNEL** - Name, title and percentage (%) of effort the key personnel identified devotes to the project.
- 6. AWARD PERIODS** - Project activities and funding are approved with respect to three different time periods, described below:
 - BUDGET PERIOD** - A specific interval of time for which Federal funds are being provided from a particular fiscal year to fund a recipient's approved activities and budget. The start and end dates of the budget period are shown.
 - PERFORMANCE PERIOD** - The complete length of time the recipient is proposed to be funded to complete approved activities. A performance period may contain one or more budget periods.
 - *FUTURE BUDGET PERIODS** - The estimated remaining budget periods for multi-year projects and estimated funds the Department proposes it will award the recipient provided substantial progress is made by the recipient in completing approved activities, the Department determines that continuing the project would be in the best interest of the Government, Congress appropriates sufficient funds under the program, and the recipient has submitted a performance report that provides the most current performance information and the status of budget expenditures.
- 7. AUTHORIZED FUNDING** - The dollar figures in this block refer to the Federal funds provided to a recipient during the award periods.
 - *THIS ACTION** - The amount of funds obligated (added) or de-obligated (subtracted) by this notification.
 - *BUDGET PERIOD** - The total amount of funds available for use by the grantee during the stated budget period to this date.
 - *PERFORMANCE PERIOD** - The amount of funds obligated from the start date of the first budget period to this date.
 - RECIPIENT COST SHARE** - The funds, expressed as a percentage, that the recipient is required to contribute to the project, as defined by the program legislation or regulations and/or terms and conditions of the award.
 - RECIPIENT NON-FEDERAL AMOUNT** - The amount of non-federal funds the recipient must contribute to the project as identified in the recipient's application. When non-federal funds are identified by the recipient where a cost share is not a legislation requirement, the recipient will be required to provide the non-federal funds.
- 8. ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION** - This information is provided to assist the recipient in completing the approved activities and managing the project in accordance with U.S. Department of Education procedures and regulations.
 - UEI** - The UEI, issued in SAM.gov, is a unique 12 character organization identifier assigned to each recipient for payment purposes.

***REGULATIONS** - Title 2 of the Code of Federal Regulations(CFR), Part 200 as adopted at 2 CFR 3474; the applicable parts of the Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR), specific program regulations (if any), and other titles of the CFR that govern the award and administration of this grant.

***ATTACHMENTS** - Additional sections of the Grant Award Notification that discuss payment and reporting requirements, explain Department procedures, and add special terms and conditions in addition to those established, and shown as clauses, in Block 10 of the award. Any attachments provided with a notification continue in effect through the project period until modified or rescinded by the Authorizing Official.

9. LEGISLATIVE AND FISCAL DATA - The name of the authorizing legislation for this grant, the CFDA title of the program through which funding is provided, and U.S. Department of Education fiscal information.

FUND CODE, FUNDING YEAR, AWARD YEAR, ORG.CODE, PROJECT CODE, OBJECT CLASS -

The fiscal information recorded by the U.S. Department of Education's Grants Management System (G5) to track obligations by award.

AMOUNT - The amount of funds provided from a particular appropriation and project code. Some notifications authorize more than one amount from separate appropriations and/or project codes. The total of all amounts in this block equals the amount shown on the line, "THIS ACTION" (See "AUTHORIZED FUNDING" above (Block 7)).

10. TERMS AND CONDITIONS - Requirements of the award that are binding on the recipient.

***PARTICIPANT NUMBER** - The number of eligible participants the grantee is required to serve during the budget year.

***GRANTEE NAME** - The entity name and address registered in the System for Award Management (SAM). This name and address is tied to the UEI registered in SAM under the name and address appearing in this field. This name, address and the associated UEI is what is displayed in the SAM Public Search.

***PROGRAM INDIRECT COST TYPE** - The type of indirect cost permitted under the program (i.e. Restricted, Unrestricted, or Training).

***PROJECT INDIRECT COST RATE** - The indirect cost rate applicable to this grant.

***AUTHORIZING OFFICIAL** - The U.S. Department of Education official authorized to award Federal funds to the recipient, establish or change the terms and conditions of the award, and authorize modifications to the award

FOR FORMULA AND BLOCK GRANTS ONLY:

(See also Blocks 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 9 and 10 above)

3. PROJECT STAFF - The U.S. Department of Education staff persons to be contacted for programmatic and payment questions.

7. AUTHORIZED FUNDING

CURRENT AWARD AMOUNT - The amount of funds that are obligated (added) or de-obligated (subtracted) by this action.

PREVIOUS CUMULATIVE AMOUNT - The total amount of funds awarded under the grant before this action.

CUMULATIVE AMOUNT - The total amount of funds awarded under the grant, this action included.

* This item differs or does not appear on formula and block grants.

Exhibit D

- Outlook

Research Foundation for State Univ. NY_Grant Termination_021025_FINAL.pdf

From Washington, Mark <Mark.Washington@ed.gov>

Date Mon 2/10/2025 7:07 PM

To Amanda Winkelsas <awinkels@buffalo.edu>

Cc Ryder, Ruth <Ruth.Ryder@ed.gov>; Weems, Kia <Kia.Weems@ed.gov>; Williams, Damien <Damien.Williams@ed.gov>

@ 1 attachment (305 **KB**)

Research Foundation for State Univ. NY_Grant Termination_021025_FINAL.pdf;

Dear Ms. Winkelsas,

Please see the attached letter, informing you of the Department's decision to terminate your federal award S423A220055, because the grant is inconsistent with, and no longer effectuates, Department priorities. You will also receive an updated GAN notice, confirming this decision and change. You will also receive notification from the Department's GS grants administration system.

Please feel free to contact me with any related questions or concerns about this information. Please also note the basis for challenge or appeal of this decision, as noted in the language of the attached letter.

Respectfully,

Mark Washington



Mark Washington

Deputy Assistant Secretary

United States Department of Education

Office of Elementary and Secondary Education

400 Maryland Avenue, SW | Washington, D.C. 20202

Phone: (202) 205-0167 | Mobile: (202) 549-9956 | Email: mark.washington@ed.gov

Exhibit E



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF SECONDARY AND ELEMENTARY EDUCATION
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION

2/10/25

Amanda Winkelsas
Project Director
The Research Foundation f
520 Lee Entrance, Suite 21
Amherst, NY 14228

RE: Grant Award Termination

Dear Ms. Winkelsas:

This letter provides notice that the United States Department of Education is terminating your federal award, S423A220055. *See* 2 C.F.R. § 200.340-43; *see also* 34 C.F.R. § 75.253.

It is a priority of the Department of Education to eliminate discrimination in all forms of education throughout the United States. The Acting Secretary of Education has determined that, per the Department's obligations to the constitutional and statutory law of the United States, this priority includes ensuring that the Department's grants do not support programs or organizations that promote or take part in diversity, equity, and inclusion ("DEI") initiatives or any other initiatives that unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, or another protected characteristic. Illegal DEI policies and practices can violate both the letter and purpose of Federal civil rights law and conflict with the Department's policy of prioritizing merit, fairness, and excellence in education. In addition to complying with the civil rights laws, it is vital that the Department assess whether all grant payments are free from fraud, abuse, and duplication, as well as to assess whether current grants are in the best interests of the United States.

The grant specified above provides funding for programs that promote or take part in DEI initiatives or other initiatives that unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, or another protected characteristic; that violate either the letter or purpose of Federal civil rights law; that conflict with the Department's policy of prioritizing merit, fairness, and excellence in education; that are not free from fraud, abuse, or duplication; or that otherwise fail to serve the best interests of the United States. The grant is therefore inconsistent with, and no longer effectuates, Department priorities. *See* 2 C.F.R. § 200.340(a)(4); *see also* 34 C.F.R. § 75.253. Therefore, pursuant to, among other authorities, 2 C.F.R. § 200.339-43, 34 C.F.R. § 75.253, and the termination provisions in your grant award, the Department hereby terminates grant No. S423A220055 in its entirety effective 2/10/25.

400 MARYLAND AVE., S.W., WASHINGTON, DC 20202
www.ed.gov

If you wish to object to or challenge this termination decision, you must submit information and documentation supporting your position in writing within 30 calendar days of the date of this termination notice. Objections and challenges must be sent by email and first-class mail and addressed to the component head that oversees the grantmaking unit, which will typically be the Assistant Secretary of that unit. In this case, please address your objection or challenge to Ruth Ryder, Acting Assistant Secretary; Office of Elementary and Secondary Education; 400 Maryland Ave., SW; Washington, D.C. 20202; ruth.ryder@ed.gov.

Your appeal should contain the following:

1. a copy of the written notice of termination;
2. the date you received written notice of termination;
3. a brief statement of your argument and the disputed factual, legal, or other issues;
4. the amount of funds or costs in dispute, if any; and
5. any other relevant documents.

See id. § 200.342.

Costs incurred by you after this termination are allowable only if (a) those costs were properly incurred by you before the effective date of this termination, and not in anticipation of it; and (b) those costs would be allowable if your federal award was not suspended or expired normally at the end of the period of performance in which the termination takes effect. *See* 2 C.F.R. § 200.343. You are encouraged to carefully review and discharge your closeout responsibilities set forth in 2 C.F.R. § 200.344-45 and your award agreement. Those responsibilities include, but are not limited to, your obligation to “promptly refund any unobligated funds” that have been paid out but “are not authorized to be retained.” *See* 2 C.F.R. § 200.344(g). Failure to do so will result in the Department filing a report documenting your “material failure to comply with the terms and conditions of” this award on SAM.gov and taking any other appropriate enforcement actions. *See id.* § 200.344(i).

Finally, you are reminded of your duties under your agreement and Department of Education guidance regarding retention of grant records for at least three years.

Thank you,

Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Management and Planning
cc: Ruth Ryder

Exhibit F

S423A220055 - 24

Amanda Winkelsas

The Research Foundation for SUNY on behalf of U. at Buffalo

520 Lee Entrance

UB Commons-Suite 211

Amherst, NY 14228

S423A220055 - 24

Jeffrey Schieder
The Research Foundation for SUNY on behalf of U. at Buffalo
The UB Commons
520 Lee Entrance, Suite 211
Amherst, NY 14228



**US Department of Education
Washington, D.C. 20202**

S423A220055 - 24

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9	LEGISLATIVE AND FISCAL DATA <table> <tr> <td>AUTHORITY:</td> <td>PL P.L. 114-95 II DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND FULL YEAR CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PROGRAM TITLE:</td> <td>SUPPORTING EFFECTIVE EDUCATOR DEVELOPMENT</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CFDA/SUBPROGRAM NO:</td> <td>84.423A</td> </tr> </table>			AUTHORITY:	PL P.L. 114-95 II DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND FULL YEAR CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT	PROGRAM TITLE:	SUPPORTING EFFECTIVE EDUCATOR DEVELOPMENT	CFDA/SUBPROGRAM NO:	84.423A		
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PROGRAM TITLE:	SUPPORTING EFFECTIVE EDUCATOR DEVELOPMENT										
CFDA/SUBPROGRAM NO:	84.423A										



**US Department of Education
Washington, D.C. 20202**

S423A220055 - 24

GRANT AWARD NOTIFICATION

10

PR/AWARD NUMBER: S423A220055 - 24

RECIPIENT NAME: The Research Foundation for SUNY on behalf of U. at Buffalo

GRANTEE NAME: THE RESEARCH FOUNDATION FOR THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
520 LEE ENTRANCE STE 211,
AMHERST, NY 14228 - 2577

PROGRAM INDIRECT COST TYPE: Restricted

PROJECT INDIRECT COST RATE: 8%

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- (1) THE BUDGET PERIOD AND PERFORMANCE PERIOD FOR THIS PROJECT ARE CHANGED TO THE DATES IN BLOCK 6. NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS ARE PROVIDED BY THIS ACTION.
- (2) The grant is deemed to be inconsistent with, and no longer effectuates, Department priorities. See 2 C.F.R. 200.340(a) (4); see also 34 C.F.R. 75.253.

LAVANNA WEEMS Digitally signed by LAVANNA WEEMS
Date: 2025.02.10 21:52:37 -05'00'

AUTHORIZING OFFICIAL

DATE

EXPLANATION OF BLOCKS ON THE GRANT AWARD NOTIFICATION

For Discretionary, Formula and Block Grants (See Block 2 of the Notification)

1. RECIPIENT NAME - The legal name of the recipient or name of the primary organizational unit that was identified in the application, state plan or other documents required to be submitted for funding by the grant program.

2. AWARD INFORMATION - Unique items of information that identify this notification.

PR/AWARD NUMBER - A unique, identifying number assigned by the Department to each application. On funded applications, this is commonly known as the "grant number" or "document number." The PR/Award Number is also known as the Federal Award Identifying Number, or FAIN.

ACTION NUMBER - A numeral that represents the cumulative number of steps taken by the Department to date to establish or modify the award through fiscal or administrative means. Action number "01" will always be "NEW AWARD"

ACTION TYPE - The nature of this notification (e.g., NEW AWARD, CONTINUATION, REVISION, ADMINISTRATIVE)

AWARD TYPE - The particular assistance category in which funding for this award is provided, i.e., DISCRETIONARY, FORMULA, or BLOCK. If this award was made under a Research and Development grant program, the terms RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT will appear under DISCRETIONARY, FORMULA OR BLOCK.

3. PROJECT STAFF - This block contains the names and telephone numbers of the U.S. Department of Education and recipient staff who are responsible for project direction and oversight.

***RECIPIENT PROJECT DIRECTOR** - The recipient staff person responsible for administering the project. This person represents the recipient to the U.S. Department of Education.

EDUCATION PROGRAM CONTACT - The U.S. Department of Education staff person responsible for the programmatic, administrative and business management concerns of the Department.

EDUCATION PAYMENT CONTACT - The U.S. Department of Education staff person responsible for payments or questions concerning electronic drawdown and financial expenditure reporting.

4. PROJECT TITLE AND CFDA NUMBER - Identifies the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) subprogram title and the associated subprogram number.

5.* KEY PERSONNEL - Name, title and percentage (%) of effort the key personnel identified devotes to the project.

6. AWARD PERIODS - Project activities and funding are approved with respect to three different time periods, described below:

BUDGET PERIOD - A specific interval of time for which Federal funds are being provided from a particular fiscal year to fund a recipient's approved activities and budget. The start and end dates of the budget period are shown.

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***FUTURE BUDGET PERIODS** - The estimated remaining budget periods for multi-year projects and estimated funds the Department proposes it will award the recipient provided substantial progress is made by the recipient in completing approved activities, the Department determines that continuing the project would be in the best interest of the Government, Congress appropriates sufficient funds under the program, and the recipient has submitted a performance report that provides the most current performance information and the status of budget expenditures.

7. AUTHORIZED FUNDING - The dollar figures in this block refer to the Federal funds provided to a recipient during the award periods.

***THIS ACTION** - The amount of funds obligated (added) or de-obligated (subtracted) by this notification.

***BUDGET PERIOD** - The total amount of funds available for use by the grantee during the stated budget period to this date.

***PERFORMANCE PERIOD** - The amount of funds obligated from the start date of the first budget period to this date.

RECIPIENT COST SHARE - The funds, expressed as a percentage, that the recipient is required to contribute to the project, as defined by the program legislation or regulations and/or terms and conditions of the award.

RECIPIENT NON-FEDERAL AMOUNT - The amount of non-federal funds the recipient must contribute to the project as identified in the recipient's application. When non-federal funds are identified by the recipient where a cost share is not a legislation requirement, the recipient will be required to provide the non-federal funds.

8. ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION - This information is provided to assist the recipient in completing the approved activities and managing the project in accordance with U.S. Department of Education procedures and regulations.

UEI - The UEI, issued in SAM.gov, is a unique 12 character organization identifier assigned to each recipient for payment purposes.

***REGULATIONS** - Title 2 of the Code of Federal Regulations(CFR), Part 200 as adopted at 2 CFR 3474; the applicable parts of the Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR), specific program regulations (if any), and other titles of the CFR that govern the award and administration of this grant.

***ATTACHMENTS** - Additional sections of the Grant Award Notification that discuss payment and reporting requirements, explain Department procedures, and add special terms and conditions in addition to those established, and shown as clauses, in Block 10 of the award. Any attachments provided with a notification continue in effect through the project period until modified or rescinded by the Authorizing Official.

9. LEGISLATIVE AND FISCAL DATA - The name of the authorizing legislation for this grant, the CFDA title of the program through which funding is provided, and U.S. Department of Education fiscal information.

FUND CODE, FUNDING YEAR, AWARD YEAR, ORG.CODE, PROJECT CODE, OBJECT CLASS -

The fiscal information recorded by the U.S. Department of Education's Grants Management System (G5) to track obligations by award.

AMOUNT - The amount of funds provided from a particular appropriation and project code. Some notifications authorize more than one amount from separate appropriations and/or project codes. The total of all amounts in this block equals the amount shown on the line, "THIS ACTION" (See "AUTHORIZED FUNDING" above (Block 7)).

10. TERMS AND CONDITIONS - Requirements of the award that are binding on the recipient.

***PARTICIPANT NUMBER** - The number of eligible participants the grantee is required to serve during the budget year.

***GRANTEE NAME** - The entity name and address registered in the System for Award Management (SAM). This name and address is tied to the UEI registered in SAM under the name and address appearing in this field. This name, address and the associated UEI is what is displayed in the SAM Public Search.

***PROGRAM INDIRECT COST TYPE** - The type of indirect cost permitted under the program (i.e. Restricted, Unrestricted, or Training).

***PROJECT INDIRECT COST RATE** - The indirect cost rate applicable to this grant.

***AUTHORIZING OFFICIAL** - The U.S. Department of Education official authorized to award Federal funds to the recipient, establish or change the terms and conditions of the award, and authorize modifications to the award

FOR FORMULA AND BLOCK GRANTS ONLY:

(See also Blocks 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 9 and 10 above)

3. PROJECT STAFF - The U.S. Department of Education staff persons to be contacted for programmatic and payment questions.

7. AUTHORIZED FUNDING

CURRENT AWARD AMOUNT - The amount of funds that are obligated (added) or de-obligated (subtracted) by this action.

PREVIOUS CUMULATIVE AMOUNT - The total amount of funds awarded under the grant before this action.

CUMULATIVE AMOUNT - The total amount of funds awarded under the grant, this action included.

10. AFFILIATE - If an affiliate digital signature appears on this GAN, it is the digital signature belonging to the individual delegated the authority to affix the Authorizing Official's signature to the GAN.

* This item differs or does not appear on formula and block grants.

Exhibit G

- Outlook

GS Notification - New Grant Award Notification S336S230043

From Mia.Howerton@ed.gov <Mia.Howerton@ed.gov>

Date Thu 7/27/2023 8:56 AM

To Amanda Winkelsas <awinkels@buffalo.edu>; bradley.bermudez <bradley.bermudez@buffalo.edu>; Phyllis.Knight@ed.gov <Phyllis.Knight@ed.gov>

Cc Mia.Howerton@ed.gov <Mia.Howerton@ed.gov>

Dear Grantee:

The U.S. Department of Education (ED) is pleased to notify you that your grant has been selected for funding. You may access your electronically signed Grant Award Notification (GAN) documents for this new award, S336S230043 & GAN action number 1, at [http://12s:Unam12.safelinks.12rotection.outlook.com/?url=htt12%3A%2F%2Fwww.gS.gov%2F&data=05%7C01%7Cawinkels%40buffalo.edu%7Ce56a8e8319064d88210808db8eaOeb08%7C96464a8af8ed40b199e25f6b50a20250%7C0%7C0%7C\(638260594027876231%7CUnknown%7CTWF12bGZsb3d8eyJWljojMC4wIjAwMDAiLCJQljojV2luMzliLCJBTil6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=IP-qfdOkvIBP-oM00EE31CmiO2tkffRO%2BuEc73xkU%3D&reserved=0](http://12s:Unam12.safelinks.12rotection.outlook.com/?url=htt12%3A%2F%2Fwww.gS.gov%2F&data=05%7C01%7Cawinkels%40buffalo.edu%7Ce56a8e8319064d88210808db8eaOeb08%7C96464a8af8ed40b199e25f6b50a20250%7C0%7C0%7C(638260594027876231%7CUnknown%7CTWF12bGZsb3d8eyJWljojMC4wIjAwMDAiLCJQljojV2luMzliLCJBTil6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=IP-qfdOkvIBP-oM00EE31CmiO2tkffRO%2BuEc73xkU%3D&reserved=0)

under Grant Maintenance, Award Documents.

You will need to sign in to GS to access your GAN. If you don't already have an account in GS, please go to the link on the top left of the home page that says "Not Registered? Sign up" and follow the instructions. To register, you will need your institution's UEI. You must also use the exact same name (no nicknames) and email address that is listed on this email. If you are a project director, or state director, select "Project Director" or "State Director" when prompted to choose a role in your profile. Please note: Only recipients of this email (the project director and certifying official or state director and authorizing official) can access the GAN in GS. If someone else at your organization requires a copy, you may print out a copy or forward the PDF to them.

Please review your GAN documents carefully, including any attachments to the GAN and any terms and conditions appearing in Box 10 of the GAN. Your grant may be subject to special conditions or your grant or organization may have been designated as high-risk. You should review your GAN carefully to see if any of the following circumstances apply:

-If your grant is subject to special conditions, the special conditions may be included in Box 10 or as an attachment to the GAN.

-If your grant has been designated high-risk, the special conditions may be included in Box 10, or may be included in the high-risk designation that is attached to the GAN.

-If your entity has been designated a high-risk grantee, the high-risk special conditions are also applicable to this grant and may be included in Box 10 of the GAN, or may be included in the high-risk designation that is attached to the GAN.

Your grant is subject to any special conditions and/or high-risk designation that are attached to your GAN and must be carried out in accordance with those requirements. Your understanding of the GAN documents helps to ensure proper program and fiscal management of your grant.

If you have questions regarding accessing GS or your GAN documents, please contact the GS help desk at 888-336-8930. Questions regarding the next steps for your grant implementation should be directed to the ED Program Contact listed on your GAN (Box 3).

Please acknowledge receipt of this e-mail by sending a reply to the Education Program Contact listed on your GAN (Box 3). We wish you success on your grant.

Exhibit H

S336S230043

Amanda Winkelsas

The Research Foundation for SUNY on behalf of U. at Buffalo

512 Baldy Hall

University at Buffalo

Buffalo, NY 14260

S336S230043

Bradley Bermudez
The Research Foundation for SUNY on behalf of U. at Buffalo
The UB Commons
520 Lee Entrance, Suite 211
Amherst, NY 14228



**US Department of Education
Washington, D.C. 20202**

S336S230043

GRANT AWARD NOTIFICATION

1	RECIPIENT NAME The Research Foundation for SUNY on behalf of U. at Buffalo The UB Commons 520 Lee Entrance, Suite 211 Amherst, NY 14228		2	AWARD INFORMATION <table> <tr> <td>PR/AWARD NUMBER</td> <td>S336S230043</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ACTION NUMBER</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ACTION TYPE</td> <td>New</td> </tr> <tr> <td>AWARD TYPE</td> <td>Discretionary</td> </tr> </table>		PR/AWARD NUMBER	S336S230043	ACTION NUMBER	1	ACTION TYPE	New	AWARD TYPE	Discretionary											
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ACTION TYPE	New																							
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3	PROJECT STAFF RECIPIENT PROJECT DIRECTOR Amanda Winkelsas (716) 645-1066 awinkels@buffalo.edu EDUCATION PROGRAM CONTACT Mia Howerton (202) 205-0147 Mia.Howerton@ed.gov EDUCATION PAYMENT HOTLINE G5 PAYEE HELPDISK 888-336-8930 obsed@servicenowservices.com		4	PROJECT TITLE 84.336S UB Teacher Residency Program																				
5	KEY PERSONNEL <table> <thead> <tr> <th><u>NAME</u></th> <th><u>TITLE</u></th> <th><u>LEVEL OF EFFORT</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Amanda Winkelsas</td> <td>Project Director</td> <td>0 %</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>					<u>NAME</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>LEVEL OF EFFORT</u>	Amanda Winkelsas	Project Director	0 %													
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GRANT AWARD NOTIFICATION

10



**US Department of Education
Washington, D.C. 20202**

GRANT AWARD NOTIFICATION

Under 2 CFR part 200, Appendix III, Indirect (F&A) Costs Identification and Assignment, and Rate Determination for Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs), the Department must apply the negotiated indirect cost rate in effect on the date of the initial grant award to every budget period of the project, including all continuation grants made for this project. See 2 CFR Part 200, Appendix III, paragraph C.7. Therefore, the GAN for each continuation grant will show the original indirect cost rate and it applies to the entire period of performance of this project. If the indirect cost rate agreement that is applicable to this grant does not extend to the end of the grant's project period, the indirect cost rate set at the start of the project period must still be applied to the end of project period regardless of the fact that the rate has otherwise expired.

- (4) The grantee must submit a revised budget covering the October 1, 2023-September 30, 2024 budget period of the grant award that aligns with the actual amount of funding that the grantee receives from the Department. The revised budget must be within the scope of the approved project and must align with all initial goals and objectives of the approved application. The grantee must submit this revised budget within 30 days of the grant award. If you wish to request reconsideration of these specific conditions, please send written notification describing why such conditions should not be imposed on this grant to your Department program officer.

AUTHORIZING OFFICIAL

DATE

EXPLANATION OF BLOCKS ON THE GRANT AWARD NOTIFICATION

For Discretionary, Formula and Block Grants (See Block 2 of the Notification)

- 1. RECIPIENT NAME** - The legal name of the recipient or name of the primary organizational unit that was identified in the application, state plan or other documents required to be submitted for funding by the grant program.
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***PROJECT INDIRECT COST RATE** - The indirect cost rate applicable to this grant.

***AUTHORIZING OFFICIAL** - The U.S. Department of Education official authorized to award Federal funds to the recipient, establish or change the terms and conditions of the award, and authorize modifications to the award

FOR FORMULA AND BLOCK GRANTS ONLY:

(See also Blocks 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 9 and 10 above)

3. PROJECT STAFF - The U.S. Department of Education staff persons to be contacted for programmatic and payment questions.

7. AUTHORIZED FUNDING

CURRENT AWARD AMOUNT - The amount of funds that are obligated (added) or de-obligated (subtracted) by this action.

PREVIOUS CUMULATIVE AMOUNT - The total amount of funds awarded under the grant before this action.

CUMULATIVE AMOUNT - The total amount of funds awarded under the grant, this action included.

* This item differs or does not appear on formula and block grants.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
& CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

Amanda Winkelsas
The Research Foundation for SUNY on behalf of U. at Buffalo
The UB Commons
520 Lee Entrance, Suite 211

Amherst, NY 14228

SUBJECT: Payee Verification for Grant Award S336S230043

This is to inform you of the payee for the above listed grant award issued by the United States Department of Education

Grantee UEI: LMCJKRFW5R81

Grantee Name: RESEARCH FOUNDATION FOR THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK, THE

Payee UEI: GMZUKXFDJMA9

Payee Name: RESEARCH FOUNDATION FOR THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK, THE

If any of the above information is not correct, please contact a Payee Customer Support Representative at 1-888-336-8930. Please send all the correspondence relating to the payee or bank information changes to the following address:

U.S. Department of Education
550 12th Street, SW
Room 6087
Washington, DC 20202

Attn: Stephanie Barnes
Phone: 202-245-8006

SPECIFIC GRANT TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR FINANCIAL AND PERFORMANCE REPORTS

PERFORMANCE REPORTS:

(1) FINAL REPORTS - ALL RECIPIENTS are required to submit a final performance report within 120 days after the expiration or termination of grant support in accordance with submission instructions provided in box 10 of the Grant Award Notification (GAN), or through another notification provided by the Department of Education (Department) ([2 CFR § 200.329\(c\)](#)).

(2) ANNUAL, QUARTERLY, or SEMIANNUAL REPORTS - ALL RECIPIENTS of a multi-year discretionary award must submit an annual Grant Performance Report ([34 CFR § 75.118](#)). The annual performance report shall provide the most current performance and financial expenditure information that is sufficient to meet the reporting requirements of 2 CFR §§ [200.328](#), [200.329](#), and [34 CFR § 75.720](#).

Your education program contact will provide you with information about your performance report submissions, including the due date, as a grant term or condition in box 10 on the GAN, or through another notification provided by the Department. The grant term or condition in box 10 on the GAN or another notification may reflect any of the following:

1. That a performance report is due before the next budget period begins. The report should contain current performance and financial expenditure information for this grant. It will either identify the date the performance report is due or state that the Department will provide additional information about this report, including due date, at a later time.
2. That an interim performance report is required because of the nature of the award or because of statutory or regulatory provisions governing the program under which this award is made, and that the report is due more frequently than annually as indicated, e.g., due quarterly and submitted within 30 days after the end of each quarter, or due semiannually and submitted within 30 days after the end of each 6-month period ([2 CFR § 200.329\(c\)\(1\)](#)).
3. That other reports are required, e.g., program specific reports required in a program's statute or regulation.

(3) FINANCIAL REPORTS – SOME RECIPIENTS:

If a financial report is required, your education program contact will provide you with information about your financial report submission, including the due date, as a grant term or condition in box 10 on the GAN, or through another notification.

A [Standard Form \(SF\) 425 Federal Financial Report \(FFR\)](#) is required if:

1. A grant involves cost sharing, and the ED 524B, which collects cost sharing information, is not submitted or a program-specific report approved by U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) does not collect cost sharing information;
2. Program income was earned;

GAN ATTACHMENT 2

Revised 03/2021

3. Indirect cost information is to be reported and the ED 524B was not used or a program-specific report approved by OMB does not collect indirect cost information;
4. Program regulations or statute require the submission of the FFR; or
5. Specific Award Conditions, or specific grant or subgrant conditions for designation of "high risk," were imposed in accordance with 2 C.F.R. part [200.208](#) and part [3474.10](#) and required the submission of the FFR.

If the FFR is required, the notification may indicate one of the following (see the form and its instructions at [Standard Form \(SF\) 425 Federal Financial Report \(FFR\)](#)):

1. Quarterly - FFRs are required for reporting periods ending on 12/31, 03/31, 06/30, 09/30, and are due within 30 days after each reporting period.
2. Semi-annual - FFRs are required for reporting periods ending on 03/31 and 09/30, and are due within 30 days after each reporting period.
3. Annual - FFRs are required for reporting period ending 09/30, and is due within 30 days after the reporting period.
4. Final - In coordination with the submission of final performance reports, FFRs are due within 120 days after the project or grant period end date (2 CFR [200.328](#)).

When completing an FFR for submission, the following must be noted:

1. *Multiple Grant Reporting Using SF 425A Prohibited:* While the FFR is a governmentwide form that is designed for single grant and multiple grant award reporting, the Department's policy is that multiple grant award reporting is not permitted for Department grants. Thus, a Department grantee that is required to submit an FFR in accordance with any of the above referenced selections must complete and submit one FFR for each of its grants. Do not use the FFR attachment (Standard Form 425A), which is available for reporting multiple grants, for reporting on Department grants. As such, references to multiple grant reporting and to the FFR attachment in items 2, 5 and 10 of the FFR are not applicable to Department grantees. With regards to item 1 of the note found in the FFR Instructions, a grantee must complete items 10(a) through 10(o) for each of its grants. The multiple award, multiple grant, and FFR attachment references found in items 2, 5, 6, before 10(a), in item 10(b), before 10(d), before 10(i) and before 10(l) of the Line Item Instructions for the FFR are not applicable to Department grants.
2. *Program Income:* Unless disallowed by statute or regulation, a grantee will complete item 10(m) or 10(n) in accordance with the options or combination of options as provided in 2 CFR Part [200.307](#). A grantee is permitted, in accordance with 2 CFR Part [200.307](#), to add program income to its Federal share to further eligible project or program objectives, use program income to finance the non-Federal share of the project or program; and deduct program income from the Federal share of the total project costs.
3. *Indirect Costs:* A grantee will complete item 11(a) by listing the indirect cost rate type identified on its indirect cost rate agreement, as approved by its cognizant agency for indirect costs.

A Department grantee that does not have an indirect cost rate agreement approved by its cognizant agency for indirect costs, and that is using the Department approved (beyond the 90-day temporary period) temporary indirect cost rate of 10% of budgeted direct salaries and wages, or the de minimis rate of 10% of modified total direct cost (MTDC) must list its indirect cost rate in 11(a) as a Department Temporary Rate or De Minimis Rate. The de minimis rate of 10% of MTDC consists of:

All direct salaries and wages, applicable fringe benefits, materials and supplies, services, travel, and subawards and contracts up to the first \$25,000 of each subaward (i.e., subgrant). MTDC excludes equipment, capital expenditures, charges for patient care, rental costs, tuition remission, scholarships and fellowships, participant support costs and the portion of each subaward in excess of \$25,000. Other items, including contract costs in excess of \$25,000, may be excluded when necessary to avoid a serious inequity in the distribution of indirect costs (see definition of MTDC at [2 CFR § 200.1](#)).

A training program grantee whose recovery of indirect cost limits indirect cost recovery to 8% of MTDC or the grantees negotiated indirect cost rate, whichever is less in accordance with EDGAR § [75.562 \(c\)](#), must list its rate in 11(a) as a Department Training Grant Rate. The 8% limit does not apply to agencies of Indian tribal governments, local governments, and States¹ as defined in [2 CFR § 200.1](#)

A restricted program grantee must list its rate as a Restricted Indirect Cost Rate in 11(a). A restricted program (i.e., programs with statutory supplement-not-supplant requirements) grantee must utilize a restricted indirect cost rate negotiated with its cognizant agency for indirect costs, or may elect to utilize a restricted indirect cost rate of 8% MTDC if their negotiated restricted indirect cost rate calculated under 34 CFR [75.563](#) and [76.564 – 76.569](#), is not less than 8% MTDC. A State or local government² that is a restricted program grantee may not elect to utilize the 8% MTDC rate. Additionally, restricted program grantees may not utilize the de minimis rate, but may utilize the temporary rate until a restricted indirect cost rate is negotiated. If a restricted program grantee elects to utilize the temporary rate, it must list its rate as a Department Temporary Rate in 11(a).

Grantees with indirect cost rates prescribed in program statute or regulation must list their rate as a Rate Required in Program Statute or Regulation in 11(a). Grantees are required to follow program-specific statutory or regulatory requirements that mandate either indirect cost rate type or maximum administrative costs recovery.

For detailed information including restrictions related to temporary, de minimis, training, restricted, and program prescribed indirect cost rates see GAN ATTACHMENT 4.

4. *Supplemental Pages:* If grantees need additional space to report financial information, beyond what is available within the FFR, they should provide supplemental pages. These additional pages must indicate the following information at the top of each page: the PR/Award Number

¹ Note that a State-funded institution of higher education is not considered a “State government” for these purposes; and a Tribal college or university funded by a federally-recognized Tribe is not considered a Tribe for these purposes.

² Note that a State-funded institution of higher education is not considered a “State government” for these purposes.

GAN ATTACHMENT 2

Revised 03/2021

also known as the Federal Identifying Number or FAIN, recipient organization, Unique Entity Identifier, Employer Identification Number (EIN), and period covered by the report.

**AN OVERVIEW OF SINGLE AUDIT REQUIREMENTS OF STATES,
LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, AND NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS**

This GAN ATTACHMENT is **not** applicable to for-profit organizations. For-profit organizations comply with audit requirements specified in block 10 of their Grant Award Notification (GAN).

Summary of Single Audit Requirements for States, Local Governments and Nonprofit Organizations:

1. Single Audit. A non-Federal entity (a State, local government, Indian tribe, Institution of Higher Education (IHE)¹, or nonprofit organization) that expends \$750,000 or more during the non-Federal entity's fiscal year in Federal awards must have a single audit conducted in accordance with 2 CFR 200.501, "Audit Requirements," except when it elects to have a program specific audit conducted.
2. Program-specific audit election. When an auditee expends Federal awards under only one Federal program (excluding research and development (R&D)), and the Federal program's statutes, regulations, or the terms and conditions of the Federal award do not require a financial statement audit of the auditee, the auditee may elect to have a program-specific audit conducted. A program-specific audit may not be elected for R&D unless all of the Federal awards expended were received from the same Federal agency, or the same Federal agency and the same pass-through entity, and that Federal agency, or pass-through entity in the case of a subrecipient, approves in advance a program-specific audit.
3. Exemption when Federal awards expended are less than \$750,000. A non-Federal entity that expends less than \$750,000 during the non-Federal entity's fiscal year in Federal awards is exempt from Federal audit requirements for that year, except as noted in 2 CFR 200.503, but records must be available for review or audit by appropriate officials of the Federal agency, pass-through entity, and Government Accountability Office (GAO). Generally, grant records must be maintained for a period of three years after the date of the final expenditure report ([2 CFR § 200.334](#))
4. Federally Funded Research and Development Centers (FFRDC). Management of an auditee that owns or operates a FFRDC may elect to treat the FFRDC as a separate entity.
5. Report Submission. To meet audit requirements of U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Uniform Guidance: Cost Principles, Audit, and Administrative Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance), grantees must submit all audit documents required by Uniform Guidance 2 CFR 200.512, including Form SF-SAC: Data Collection Form electronically to the Federal Audit Clearinghouse at:

¹ As defined under the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA) section 101.

<https://facides.census.gov/Account/Login.aspx>.

The audit must be completed, and the data collection form and reporting package must be submitted within the earlier of 30 calendar days after receipt of the auditor's report(s), or nine months after the end of the audit period. If the due date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or Federal holiday, the reporting package is due the next business day. Unless restricted by Federal statutes or regulations, the auditee must make copies available for public inspection. Auditees and auditors must ensure that their respective parts of the reporting package do not include protected personally identifiable information. (2 CFR 200.512)

Grantees are strongly urged to obtain the "OMB Compliance Supplement" and to contact their cognizant agency for single audit technical assistance.

The designated cognizant agency for single audit purposes is "the Federal awarding agency that provides the predominant amount of direct funding to the recipient." Grantees should obtain a copy of the OMB Compliance supplement. This supplement will be instructive to both grantees and their auditors. Appendix III of the supplement provides a list of Federal Agency Contacts for Single Audits, including addresses, phone numbers, fax numbers, and e-mail addresses for technical assistance.

For single audit-related questions, if the U.S. Department of Education is the cognizant agency, grantees should contact the Non-Federal Audit Team in the Department's Office of Inspector General, at oinon-federalaudit@ed.gov. Additional resources for single audits are also available on the Non-Federal Audit Team's website at <https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oig/nonfed/index.html>. For programmatic questions, grantees should contact the education program contact shown on the Department's GAN.

Grantees can obtain information on single audits from:

The OMB website at www.omb.gov. Look under Office of Management and Budget (in right column) then click Office of Federal Financial Management (to obtain OMB Compliance Supplement). The SF-SAC: Data Collection Form can be found at the Federal Audit Clearinghouse at: <https://facides.census.gov/Files/2019-2021%20Checklist%20Instructions%20and%20Form.pdf>.

The American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) has illustrative OMB Single Audit report examples that might be of interest to accountants, auditors, or financial staff at www.aicpa.org.

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF PROGRAM INCOME

In projects that generate program income, the recipient calculates the amount of program income according to the guidance given in 2 CFR Part 200.307.

***** IF YOU RECEIVED YOUR GRANT AWARD NOTIFICATION ELECTRONICALLY AND YOU ARE SUBJECT TO ANY OF THE RESTRICTIONS IDENTIFIED BELOW, THE RESTRICTION(S) WILL APPEAR IN BOX 10 ON YOUR GRANT AWARD NOTIFICATION AS A GRANT TERM OR CONDITION OF THE AWARD. *****

Unless checked below as NOT ALLOWED, the recipient may exercise any of the options or combination of options, as provided in 2 CFR Part 200.307, for using program income generated in the course of the recipient's authorized project activities:

_____ Not Allowed Adding program income to funds committed to the project by the Secretary and recipient and using it to further eligible project or program objectives;

_____ Not Allowed Using program income to finance the non-Federal share of the project or program; and

_____ Not Allowed Deducting program income from the total allowable cost to determine the net allowable costs.

TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

The Department of Education adopts the requirements in the Code of Federal Regulations at 2 CFR [175](#) and incorporates those requirements into this grant through this condition. The grant condition specified in 2 CFR [175.15\(b\)](#) is incorporated into this grant with the following changes. Paragraphs a.2.ii.B and b.2. ii. are revised to read as follows:

“a.2.ii.B. Imputed to you or the subrecipient using the standards and due process for imputing the conduct of an individual to an organization that are provided in 34 CFR part 85.”

“b.2. ii. Imputed to the subrecipient using the standards and due process for imputing the conduct of an individual to an organization that are provided in 34 CFR part 85.”

Under this condition, the Secretary may terminate this grant without penalty for any violation of these provisions by the grantee, its employees, or its subrecipients.

**FEDERAL FUNDING ACCOUNTABILITY TRANSPARENCY ACT
REPORTING SUBAWARDS AND EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION**

The Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) is designed to increase transparency and improve the public's access to Federal government information. To this end, FFATA requires that Department of Education (Department) grant recipients:

1. Report **first-tier subawards** made under Federal grants that are funded at \$30,000 or more that meet the reporting conditions as set forth in this grant award term;
2. Report their executives' compensation for all new Federal grants that are funded at \$30,000 and that meet the reporting conditions as set forth in this grant award term; and
3. Report executive compensation data for their **first-tier subrecipients** that meet the reporting conditions as set forth in this grant award term.

For FFATA reporting purposes, the Department grant recipient is the entity listed in box 1 of the Grant Award Notification.

Only **first-tier subawards** made by the Department grant recipient to its **first-tier subrecipients** and the **first-tier subrecipients'** executive compensation are required to be reported in accordance with FFATA.

Subaward, Subrecipient, Recipient, Total Compensation, Executives, and other key terms, are defined within item 5, Definitions, of this grant award term.

This grant award term is issued in accordance with [2 CFR Part 170—Reporting Subaward And Executive Compensation Information](#).

1. Reporting of First-tier Subawards -

a. Applicability and what to report.

Unless you are exempt as provided item 4, Exemptions, of this grant award term, you must report each obligation that **equals or exceeds \$30,000** in Federal funds for a first-tier subaward to a non-Federal entity or Federal agency.

You must report the information about each obligating action that are specified in the submission instructions posted at [FSRS](#).

b. Where and when to report.

The Department grant recipient must report each obligating action described in paragraph **1.a.** of this award term to [FSRS](#).

Report subaward information no later than the end of the month following the month in which the subaward obligation was made. For example, if the obligation was made on November 7, 2020, the obligation must be reported by no later than December 31, 2020.

2. Reporting Total Compensation of the Department's Grant Recipients' Executives -

a. *Applicability and what to report.*

You must report total compensation for each of your five most highly compensated executives for the preceding completed fiscal year, if—

- i The total Federal funding authorized to date under this Federal award **equals or exceeds \$30,000;**
- ii In the preceding fiscal year, you received—
 - A. 80 percent or more of your annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts) and Federal financial assistance subject to the Transparency Act, as defined at [2 CFR 170.320](#) (and subawards), **and**
 - B. \$25,000,000 or more in annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts) and Federal financial assistance subject to the Transparency Act, as defined at [2 CFR 170.320](#) (and subawards); **and,**
 - C. The public does not have access to information about the compensation of the executives through periodic reports filed under section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m(a), 78o(d)) or section 6104 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. (To determine if the public has access to the compensation information, see the U.S. Security and Exchange Commission total compensation filings at [SEC Investor.gov Executive Compensation](#).)

b. *Where and when to report.*

You must report executive total compensation described in paragraph **2.a.** of this grant award term:

- i As part of your registration profile at [SAM.gov](#).
- ii By the end of the month following the month in which this award is made (for example, if the obligation was made on November 7, 2020 the executive compensation must be reported by no later than December 31, 2020), and annually thereafter.

3. Reporting of Total Compensation of Subrecipient Executives –

a. *Applicability and what to report.*

Unless you are exempt as provided in item 4, Exemptions, of this award term, for each first-tier **non-Federal entity** subrecipient under this award, you shall report the names and total compensation of each of the subrecipient's five most highly compensated executives for the subrecipient's preceding completed fiscal year, if—

- i In the subrecipient's preceding fiscal year, the subrecipient received—

- A. 80 percent or more of its annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts) and Federal financial assistance subject to the Transparency Act, as defined at [2 CFR 170.320](#) (and subawards), **and**
 - B. \$25,000,000 or more in annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts) and Federal financial assistance subject to the Transparency Act, as defined at [2 CFR 170.320](#) (and subawards); **and**,
 - C. The public does not have access to information about the compensation of the executives through periodic reports filed under section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m(a), 78o(d)) or section 6104 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. (To determine if the public has access to the compensation information, see the U.S. Security and Exchange Commission total compensation filings at [SEC Investor.gov Executive Compensation](#).)
- b. *Where and when to report.*

You must report subrecipient executive total compensation described in paragraph **3.a.** of this grant award term:

- i. In [FSRS](#). You must include a condition on subawards that requires the subrecipients to timely report the information required under paragraph **3.a.** to you the prime awardee, or in the [SAM.gov](#). Subrecipient executive compensation entered in [SAM.gov](#) by the subrecipient will pre-populate in [FSRS](#), so you do not have to report when subrecipients enter this information in [SAM.gov](#). Subrecipient executive compensation not entered in [SAM.gov](#) by the subrecipient is reported in [FSRS](#) by you the Department grant recipient.
- ii. By the end of the month following the month during which you make the subaward. For example, if the subaward obligation was made on November 7, 2020 the subrecipient's executive compensation must be reported by no later than December 31, 2020.

4. Exemptions –

- a. If, in the previous tax year, you had gross income, from all sources, under \$300,000, you are exempt from the requirements to report:
 - i. Subawards, and
 - ii. The total compensation of the five most highly compensated executives of any **subrecipient**.

5. Definitions -

- a. For purposes of this award term:
 - i. Federal *Agency* means a Federal agency as defined at [5 U.S.C. 551\(1\)](#) and further clarified by [5 U.S.C. 552\(f\)](#).
 - ii. Non-Federal *Entity* means all of the following, as defined in [2 CFR part 25](#):

A Governmental organization, which is a State, local government, or Indian tribe;

- A foreign public entity;
 - A domestic or foreign nonprofit organization; and,
 - A domestic or foreign for-profit organization
- iii. *Executive* means officers, managing partners, or any other employees in management positions.
 - iv. *Obligation*, when used in connection with a non-Federal entity's utilization of funds under a Federal award, means orders placed for property and services, contracts and subawards made, and similar transactions during a given period that require payment by the non-Federal entity during the same or a future period.
 - v. *Subaward*:

This term means a legal instrument to provide support for the performance of any portion of the substantive project or program for which you received this award and that you as the recipient award to an eligible subrecipient.

The term does not include your procurement of property and services (such as payments to a contractor, small purchase agreements, vendor agreements, and consultant agreements) that are needed for the benefit of the prime awardee to carry out the project or program (for further explanation, see [2 CFR 200.331](#)). For example, the following are not considered subawards:

Cleaning Vendors: Vendors that are hired by a grantee to clean its facility.

Payroll Services Vendors: Vendors that carryout payroll functions for the grantee.

Information Technology Vendors: Vendors that provide IT support to grant staff.

Payments to individuals that are beneficiaries of Federal programs are not considered subawards.

A subaward may be provided through any legal agreement, including an agreement that you or a subrecipient considers a contract.

- v. *Subrecipient* means a non-Federal entity or Federal agency that:

Receives a subaward from you (the recipient) under this award; and

Is accountable to you for the use of the Federal funds provided by the subaward.

In accordance with its subaward, uses the Federal funds to carry out a program for a public purpose specified in authorizing statute, as opposed to providing goods or services for the benefit of the Department prime awardee.

- vii. *Recipient* means a non-Federal entity that receives a Federal award directly from a Federal awarding agency to carry out an activity under a Federal program. The term recipient does not include subrecipients. See also §200.69 Non-Federal entity.
- viii. *Total compensation* means the cash and noncash dollar value earned by the executive during the recipient's or subrecipient's preceding fiscal year and includes the following (for more information see [17 CFR 229.402\(c\)\(2\)](#)):

Salary and bonus.

Awards of stock, stock options, and stock appreciation rights. Use the dollar amount recognized for financial statement reporting purposes with respect to the fiscal year in accordance with the Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123 (Revised 2004) (FAS 123R), Shared Based Payments.

Earnings for services under non-equity incentive plans. This does not include group life, health, hospitalization, or medical reimbursement plans that do not discriminate in favor of executives and are available generally to all salaried employees.

Change in pension value. This is the change in present value of defined benefit and actuarial pension plans.

Above-market earnings on deferred compensation which is not tax-qualified.

Other compensation, if the aggregate value of all such other compensation (e.g., severance, termination payments, value of life insurance paid on behalf of the employee, perquisites, or property) for the executive exceeds \$10,000.

**SPECIFIC CONDITIONS FOR DISCLOSING
FEDERAL FUNDING IN PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS**

When issuing statements, press releases, requests for proposals, bid solicitations and other documents describing projects or programs funded in whole or in part with Federal money, U.S. Department of Education grantees shall clearly state:

- 1) the percentage of the total costs of the program or project which will be financed with Federal money;
- 2) the dollar amount of Federal funds for the project or program; and
- 3) the percentage and dollar amount of the total costs of the project or program that will be financed by non-governmental sources.

Recipients must comply with these conditions under Division H, Title V, Section 505 of Public Law 116-260, Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021.

**PROHIBITION OF TEXT MESSAGING AND EMAILING WHILE DRIVING
DURING OFFICIAL FEDERAL GRANT BUSINESS**

Federal grant recipients, sub recipients and their grant personnel are prohibited from text messaging while driving a government owned vehicle, or while driving their own privately-owned vehicle during official grant business, or from using government supplied electronic equipment to text message or email when driving.

Recipients must comply with these conditions under Executive Order 13513, "Federal Leadership on Reducing Text Messaging While Driving," October 1, 2009.

REGISTRATION OF UNIQUE ENTITY IDENTIFIER (UEI) NUMBER AND TAXPAYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (TIN) IN THE SYSTEM FOR AWARD MANAGEMENT (SAM)

The U.S. Department of Education (Department) Grants Management System (G5) disburses payments via the U.S. Department of Treasury (Treasury). The U.S. Treasury requires that we include your Tax Payer Identification Number (TIN) with each payment. Therefore, in order to do business with the Department you must have a registered Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) and TIN number with the SAM, the U.S. Federal Government's primary registrant database. If the payee UEI number is different than your grantee UEI number, both numbers must be registered in the SAM. Failure to do so will delay the receipt of payments from the Department.

A TIN is an identification number used by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) in the administration of tax laws. It is issued either by the Social Security Administration (SSA) or by the IRS. A Social Security number (SSN) is issued by the SSA whereas all other TINs are issued by the IRS.

The following are all considered [TINs according to the IRS](#).

- Social Security Number "SSN"
- Employer Identification Number "EIN"
- Individual Taxpayer Identification Number "ITIN"
- Taxpayer Identification Number for Pending U.S. Adoptions "ATIN"
- Preparer Taxpayer Identification Number "PTIN"

If your UEI number is not currently registered with the SAM, you can easily register by going to www.sam.gov. Please allow 3-5 business days to complete the registration process. If you need a new TIN, please allow 2-5 weeks for your TIN to become active. If you need assistance during the registration process, you may contact the SAM Federal Service Desk at 866-606-8220.

If you are currently registered with SAM, you may not have to make any changes. However, please take the time to validate that the TIN associated with your UEI is correct.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the G5 Hotline at 888-336-8930.

SYSTEM FOR AWARD MANAGEMENT AND UNIVERSAL IDENTIFIER REQUIREMENTS**1. Requirement for System for Award Management (SAM)**

Unless you are exempted from this requirement under 2 CFR 25.110, you are, in accordance with your grant program's Notice Inviting Applications, required to maintain an active SAM registration with current information about your organization, including information on your immediate and highest level owner and subsidiaries, as well as on all predecessors that have been awarded a Federal contract or grant within the last three years, if applicable, at all times during which you have an active Federal award or an application or plan under consideration by a Federal awarding agency. To remain registered in the SAM database after your initial registration, you are required to review and update your information in the SAM database on an annual basis from the date of initial registration or subsequent updates to ensure it is current, accurate and complete.

2. Requirement for Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) Numbers

If you are authorized to make subawards under this award, you:

1. Must notify potential subrecipients that they may not receive a subaward from you unless they provided their UEI number to you.
2. May not make a subaward to a subrecipient when the subrecipient fails to provide its UEI number to you.

3. Definitions

For purposes of this award term:

1. System for Award Management (SAM) means the Federal repository into which a recipient must provide information required for the conduct of business as a recipient. Additional information about registration procedures may be found at the SAM internet site (currently at <https://www.sam.gov>).
2. Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) means the identifier assigned by SAM registration to uniquely identify business entities.
3. Recipient means a non-Federal entity that receives a Federal award directly from a Federal awarding agency to carry out an activity under a Federal program. The term recipient does not include subrecipients. See 2 CFR 200.86.
4. Subaward means an award provided by a pass-through entity to a subrecipient for the subrecipient to carry out part of a Federal award received by the pass-through entity. It does not include payments to a contractor or payments to an individual that is a beneficiary of a Federal program. A subaward may be provided through any form of legal agreement, including an agreement that the pass-through entity considers a contract. See 2 CFR 200.92.

5. Subrecipient means a non-Federal entity that receives a subaward from a pass-through entity to carry out part of a Federal program; but does not include an individual that is a beneficiary of such program. A subrecipient may also be a recipient of other Federal awards directly from a Federal awarding agency. See 2 CFR 200.93.

KEY FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR DISCRETIONARY GRANTS AWARDED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

The Department expects grantees to administer Department grants in accordance with generally accepted business practices, exercising prudent judgment so as to maintain proper stewardship of taxpayer dollars. This includes using fiscal control and fund accounting procedures that insure proper disbursement of and accounting for Federal funds. In addition, grantees may use grant funds only for obligations incurred during the funding period.

Title 2 of the Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, "Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards," establishes requirements for Federal awards made to non-Federal entities. The Education Department General Administrative Regulations in 34 CFR (EDGAR) 75, 76, 77, 79, 81, 82, 84, 86, 97, 98, and 99 contain additional requirements for administering discretionary grants made by this Department. The most recent version of these regulations may be accessed at the following URLs:

[The Education Department General Administrative Regulations \(EDGAR\)](#)

[2 CFR Part 200 Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards](#)

The information on page 2, "Selected Topics in Administering Department Discretionary Grants," highlights major administrative requirements of 2 CFR Part 200. In addition, a few of the topics discuss requirements that the Department imposes on its discretionary grantees under EDGAR, Part 75 (Direct Grants). The specific sections of 2 CFR Part 200 and of EDGAR that address the topics discussed are shown in parentheses. The Department urges grantees to read the full text of these and other topics in EDGAR and in 2 CFR Part 200.

Grantees are reminded that a particular grant might be subject to additional requirements of the authorizing statute for the program that awarded the grant and/or any regulations issued by the program office. Grantees should become familiar with those requirements as well, because program-specific requirements might differ from those in 2 CFR Part 200 and in EDGAR.

The Department recommends that the project director and the fiscal management staff of a grantee organization communicate frequently with each other about the grant budget. Doing so will help to assure that you use Federal funds only for those expenditures associated with activities that conform to the goals and objectives approved for the project.

Grantees may direct any questions regarding the topics discussed on page 2, "Selected Topics in Administering Department Discretionary Grants," or about any other aspect of administering your grant award to the Department program staff person named in Block 3 of the Grant Award Notification.

SELECTED TOPICS IN ADMINISTERING DEPARTMENT DISCRETIONARY GRANTS**I. Financial Management Systems (2 CFR Part 200.302)**

In general, grantees are required to have financial management systems that:

- * provide for accurate, current, and complete disclosure of results regarding the use of funds under grant projects;
- * provide adequate source documentation for Federal and non-Federal funds used under grant projects;
- * contain procedures to determine the allowability, allocability, and reasonableness of obligations and expenditures made by the grantee; and
- * enable the grantee to maintain effective internal control and fund accountability procedures, e.g., requiring separation of functions so that the person who makes obligations for the grantee is not the same person who signs the checks to disburse the funds for those obligations.

State systems must account for funds in accordance with State laws and procedures that apply to the expenditure of and the accounting for a State's own funds. A State's procedures, as well as those of its subrecipients and cost-type contractors, must be sufficient to permit the preparation of reports that may be required under the award as well as provide the tracing of expenditures to a level adequate to establish that award funds have not been used in violation of any applicable statutory restrictions or prohibitions.

II. Federal Payment (2 CFR Part 200.305)

Under this part --

- * the Department pays grantees in advance of their expenditures if the grantee demonstrates a willingness and ability to minimize the time between the transfer of funds to the grantee and the disbursement of the funds by the grantee;
- * grantees repay to the Federal government interest earned on advances; and
- * grantees, generally, must maintain advance payments of Federal awards in interest bearing accounts.

In general, grantees should make payment requests frequently, only for small amounts sufficient to meet the cash needs of the immediate future.

The Department has recently encountered situations where grantees failed to request funds until long after the grantee actually expended its own funds for the costs of its grant. Grantees need to be aware that, by law, Federal funds are available for grantees to draw down for only a limited period of time, after which the funds revert to the U.S. Treasury. In some cases grantees have requested funds too late for the Department to be able to pay the grantees for legitimate costs incurred during their project periods.

GAN ENCLOSURE 1

Revised 03/2021

The Department urges financial managers to regularly monitor requests for payment under their grants to assure that Federal funds are drawn from the Department G5 Payment System at the time those funds are needed for payments to vendors and employees.

III. Personnel (EDGAR §§ 75.511-75.519 and 2 CFR Part 200 Subpart D and E)

The rules governing personnel costs are located in EDGAR Part 75 and 2 CFR Part 200 Subparts D and E. Part 75 covers issues such as paying consultants with grant funds, prohibiting dual compensation of staff, and waiving the requirement for a full-time project director. The rules clarifying changes in key project staff are located in 2 CFR Part 200.308 (c)(2). General rules governing reimbursement of salaries and compensation for staff working on grant projects are addressed in the cost principles in 2 CFR Part 200 Subpart D and E. In all cases, payments of any type to personnel must be supported by complete and accurate records of employee time and effort. For those employees that work on multiple functions or separately funded programs or projects, the grantee must also maintain time distribution records to support the allocation of employee salaries among each function and separately funded program or project.

IV. Cost Principles (2 CFR Part 200 Subpart E)

All costs incurred under any grant are subject to the cost principles found in 2 CFR Part 200 Subpart E. The cost principles provide lists of selected items of allowable and unallowable costs, and must be used in determining the allowable costs of work performed under the grant.

V. Procurement Standards (2 CFR Part 200.317-327)

Under 2 CFR Part 200.317, States are required to follow the procurement rules the States have established for purchases funded by non-Federal sources. When procuring goods and services for a grant's purposes, all other grantees may follow their own procurement procedures, but only to the extent that those procedures meet the minimum requirements for procurement specified in the regulations. These requirements include written competition procedures and codes of conduct for grantee staff, as well as requirements for cost and price analysis, record-keeping and contractor compliance with certain Federal laws and regulations. These regulations also require grantees to include certain conditions in contracts and subcontracts, as mandated by the regulations and statutes.

VI. Indirect Costs (EDGAR §§75.560-564 and 2 CFR Part 200.414)

In addition to the information presented below, see GAN ATTACHMENT 4 for additional information including restrictions related to temporary, de minimis, training, restricted, and program prescribed indirect cost rates.

A. Unrestricted Indirect Cost Rate

To utilize an unrestricted indirect cost rate, a grantee must have an indirect cost agreement with its cognizant agency, submit an indirect cost rate proposal to its cognizant agency for indirect

GAN ENCLOSURE 1

Revised 03/2021

costs (cognizant agency) within 90 days after the award of this grant or elect to utilize the de minimis rate under 2 CFR § 200.414(f) or the temporary indirect cost rate (subject to limitations described below).

The grantee must provide proof of its negotiated indirect cost rate agreement to the Department as soon as it has signed such an agreement with its cognizant agency.

B. Temporary Indirect Cost Rate

A grantee that does not have a current negotiated indirect cost rate agreement may recover indirect costs at a temporary rate, which is limited to 10% of budgeted direct salaries and wages (See 34 CFR § 75.560(c)); or it may choose not to charge indirect costs to the grant. The temporary rate can only be used for 90 days unless the exceptional circumstances apply under 34 CFR § 75.560(d)(2).

If the grantee has not submitted its indirect cost proposal to its cognizant agency within the 90-day period, it may no longer recover indirect costs utilizing the temporary indirect cost rate until it has negotiated an indirect cost rate agreement with its cognizant agency. Once a grantee obtains a federally recognized indirect cost rate that is applicable to this grant, the grantee may use that indirect cost rate to claim indirect cost reimbursement.

C. De minimis Indirect Cost Rate

Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs), federally-recognized Indian Tribes, State and Local Governments¹ receiving less than \$35 million in direct federal funding, and nonprofit organizations, if they do not have a current negotiated (including provisional) rate, and are not subject to the Department's training rate or restricted rate (supplement-not-supplant provisions) may elect to charge a de minimis indirect cost rate of 10% of modified total direct costs (MTDC). This rate may be used indefinitely.

MTDC consists of all direct salaries and wages, applicable fringe benefits, materials and supplies, services, travel, and subawards and contracts up to the first \$25,000 of each subaward (i.e., subgrant). MTDC excludes equipment, capital expenditures, charges for patient care, rental costs, tuition remission, scholarships and fellowships, participant support costs and the portion of each subaward in excess of \$25,000. Other items, including contract costs in excess of \$25,000, may be excluded when necessary to avoid a serious inequity in the distribution of indirect costs (see definition of MTDC at 2 CFR § 200.1).

Additionally, the de minimis rate may not be used by grantees that are subject to the Department's training indirect cost rate (34 CFR § 75.562) or restricted indirect cost rate. The de minimis rate may be used indefinitely. However, if a grantee chooses to use the de minimis rate to recover indirect costs, it must do so for all of its Federal awards until such time as the grantee negotiates an indirect cost rate with its cognizant agency. Once a grantee obtains a federally recognized indirect cost rate that is applicable to this grant, the grantee may use that indirect cost rate to claim indirect cost reimbursement.

¹ Note that a State-funded institution of higher education is not considered a "State government" for these purposes.

GAN ENCLOSURE 1

Revised 03/2021

D. Programs with a Supplement-not-supplant requirement (restricted indirect cost rate)

A restricted program (i.e., programs with statutory supplement-not-supplant requirements) grantee must utilize a restricted indirect cost rate negotiated with its cognizant agency for indirect costs, or may elect to utilize a restricted indirect cost rate of 8% MTDC if their negotiated restricted indirect cost rate calculated under 34 CFR 75.563 and 76.564 – 76.569, is not less than 8% MTDC. A State or local government² that is a restricted program grantee may not elect to utilize the 8% MTDC rate. Additionally, restricted program grantees may not utilize the de minimis rate, but may utilize the temporary rate until a restricted indirect cost rate is negotiated.

E. Training Grant Indirect Cost Rate

If the grantee is a training grant recipient and is not a State, local, or Tribal government³, the grantee must negotiate a rate under 34 CFR 75.562. This provision limits indirect cost recovery to 8% of modified total direct costs or the grantees negotiated indirect cost rate, whichever is less.

The recovery using the training grant indirect cost rate is subject to the following limitations:

- i. The lesser of the 8% indirect cost rate or negotiated indirect cost rate also applies to sub-awards that fund training.
- ii. The 8% limit does not apply to agencies of Indian tribal governments, local governments, and States as defined in 2 CFR § 200.1, respectively.
- iii. Indirect costs in excess of the 8% limit may not be charged directly, used to satisfy matching or cost-sharing requirements, or charged to another Federal award.
- iv. A grantee using the training rate of 8% is required to have documentation available for audit that shows that its negotiated indirect cost rate is at least 8%.

F. Program-Specific Indirect Cost Rate

Grantees are required to follow program-specific statutory or regulatory requirements that mandate either indirect cost rate type or maximum administrative costs recovery instead of the general requirements described here.

VII. Audit Requirements (2 CFR Part 200 Subpart F)

2 CFR 200 Subpart F requires that grantees that are non-Federal entities (a State, local government, Indian tribe, IHE, or nonprofit organization that carries out a Federal award as a recipient or subrecipient) obtain a non-Federal audit of their expenditures under their Federal grants if the grantee expends more than \$750,000 in Federal funds in one fiscal year. 2 CFR Part 200 Subpart F contains the requirements imposed on grantees for

² Note that a State-funded institution of higher education is not considered a “State government” for these purposes.

³ Note that a State-funded institution of higher education is not considered a “State government” for these purposes; and a Tribal college or university funded by a federally-recognized Tribe is not considered a Tribe for these purposes.

GAN ENCLOSURE 1

Revised 03/2021

audits done in connection with the law.

The Department recommends hiring auditors who have specific experience in auditing Federal awards under the regulations and the Compliance Supplement.

VIII. Other Considerations

Some other topics of financial management covered in 2 CFR Part 200 that might affect particular grants include program income (2 CFR Part 200.307), cost sharing or matching (2 CFR Part 200.306), property management requirements for equipment and other capital expenditures (2 CFR Parts 200.313, 200.439).

MEMORANDUM TO ED DISCRETIONARY GRANTEES

You are receiving this memorandum to remind you of Federal requirements, found in 2 CFR Part [200](#), *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements*, regarding cash drawdowns under your grant account.

For any cash that you draw from your Department of Education (*the Department*) grant account, you must:

- draw down only as much cash as is necessary to meet the immediate needs of the grant project;
- keep to the minimum the time between drawing down the funds and paying them out for grant activities; and
- return to the Government the interest earned on grant funds deposited in interest-bearing bank accounts except for a small amount of interest earned each year that your entity is allowed to keep to reimburse itself for administrative expenses).

In order to meet these requirements, you are urged to:

- take into account the need to coordinate the timing of drawdowns with prior internal clearances (e.g., by boards, directors, or other officials) when projecting immediate cash needs so that funds drawn down from ED do not stay in a bank account for extended periods of time while waiting for approval;
- monitor the fiscal activity (drawdowns and payments) under your grant on a continuous basis;
- plan carefully for cash flow in your grant project during the budget period and review project cash requirements before each drawdown; and
- pay out grant funds for project activities as soon as it is practical to do so after receiving cash from the Department.

Keep in mind that the Department monitors cash drawdown activity for all grants. Department staff will contact grantees who appear to have drawn down excessive amounts of cash under one or more grants during the fiscal quarter to discuss the particular situation. For the purposes of drawdown monitoring, the Department will contact grantees who have drawn down 50% or more of the grant in the first quarter, 80% or more in the second quarter, and/or 100% of the cash in the third quarter of the budget period. However, even amounts less than these thresholds could still represent excessive drawdowns for your particular grant activities in any particular quarter. Grantees determined to have drawn down excessive cash will be required to return the excess funds to the Department, along with any associated earned interest, until such time as the money is legitimately needed to pay for grant activities. If you need assistance with returning funds and interest, please contact the Department's G5 Hotline by calling 1-888-336-8930.

Grantees that do not follow Federal cash management requirements and/or consistently appear on the Department's reports of excessive drawdowns could be:

- subjected to specific award conditions or designated as a "high-risk" grantee [2 CFR Part [200.208](#) and 2 CFR [3474.10](#)], which could mean being placed on a "cash-reimbursement" payment method (i.e., a grantee would experience the inconvenience of having to pay for grant activities with its own money and waiting to be reimbursed by the Department afterwards);

GAN ENCLOSURE 2

Revised 03/2021

- subject to further corrective action;
- denied selection for funding on future ED grant applications [EDGAR [75.217\(d\)\(3\)\(ii\)](#)]; and/or
- debarred or suspended from receiving future Federal awards from any executive agency of the Federal government.

You are urged to read 2 CFR Part 200.[305](#) to learn more about Federal requirements related to grant payments and to determine how to apply these requirements to any subgrantees. You are urged to make copies of this memorandum and share it with all affected individuals within your organization.

THE USE OF GRANT FUNDS FOR CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

You are receiving this memorandum to remind you that grantees must take into account the following factors when considering the use of grant funds for conferences and meetings:

- Before deciding to use grant funds to attend or host a meeting or conference, a grantee should:
 - Ensure that attending or hosting a conference or meeting is consistent with its approved application and is reasonable and necessary to achieve the goals and objectives of the grant;
 - Ensure that the primary purpose of the meeting or conference is to disseminate technical information, (e.g., provide information on specific programmatic requirements, best practices in a particular field, or theoretical, empirical, or methodological advances made in a particular field; conduct training or professional development; plan/coordinate the work being done under the grant); and
 - Consider whether there are more effective or efficient alternatives that can accomplish the desired results at a lower cost, for example, using webinars or video conferencing.
- Grantees must follow all applicable statutory and regulatory requirements in determining whether costs are reasonable and necessary, especially the Cost Principles for Federal grants set out at 2 CFR Part 200 Subpart E of the, “Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards.” In particular, remember that:
 - Federal grant funds cannot be used to pay for alcoholic beverages; and
 - Federal grant funds cannot be used to pay for entertainment, which includes costs for amusement, diversion, and social activities.
- Grant funds may be used to pay for the costs of attending a conference. Specifically, Federal grant funds may be used to pay for conference fees and travel expenses (transportation, per diem, and lodging) of grantee employees, consultants, or experts to attend a conference or meeting if those expenses are reasonable and necessary to achieve the purposes of the grant.
 - When planning to use grant funds for attending a meeting or conference, grantees should consider how many people should attend the meeting or conference on their behalf. The number of attendees should be reasonable and necessary to accomplish the goals and objectives of the grant.
- A grantee hosting a meeting or conference may not use grant funds to pay for food for conference attendees unless doing so is necessary to accomplish legitimate meeting or conference business.
 - A working lunch is an example of a cost for food that might be allowable under a Federal grant if attendance at the lunch is needed to ensure the full participation by conference attendees in essential discussions and speeches concerning the purpose of the conference and to achieve the goals and objectives of the project.
- A meeting or conference hosted by a grantee and charged to a Department grant must not be promoted as a U.S. Department of Education conference. This means that the seal of the U.S. Department of Education must not be used on conference materials or signage without Department approval.

GAN ENCLOSURE 3

Revised 03/2021

- All meeting or conference materials paid for with grant funds must include appropriate disclaimers, such as the following:

The contents of this (insert type of publication; e.g., book, report, film) were developed under a grant from the Department of Education. However, those contents do not necessarily represent the policy of the Department of Education, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government.
- Grantees are strongly encouraged to contact their project officer with any questions or concerns about whether using grant funds for a meeting or conference is allowable prior to committing grant funds for such purposes.
 - A short conversation could help avoid a costly and embarrassing mistake.
- Grantees are responsible for the proper use of their grant awards and may have to repay funds to the Department if they violate the rules on the use of grant funds, including the rules for meeting- and conference-related expenses.

**MEMORANDUM TO REMIND DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION GRANTEES OF EXISTING CASH
MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS CONCERNING PAYMENTS**

The Department of Education (Department) requires that its grantees adhere to existing cash management requirements concerning payments and will ensure that their subgrantees are also aware of these policies by providing them relevant information. A grantee's failure to comply with cash management requirements may result in an improper payment determination by the Department in accordance with the [Payment Integrity Information Act \(PIIA\) of 2019](#).

There are three categories of payment requirements that apply to the drawdown of funds from grant accounts at the Department. The first two types of payments are subject to the requirements in the Treasury Department regulations implementing the Cash Management Improvement Act (CMIA) of 1990, 31 U.S.C.6513, and the third is subject to the requirements in the *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance) at 2 CFR part 200,¹ as follows:

1. Payments to a State under programs that are covered by a State's Treasury State Agreement (TSA);
2. Payments to States under programs that are not covered by a TSA; and
3. Payments to other non-Federal entities, including nonprofit organizations and local governments.

CMIA Requirements Applicable to Programs included in a TSA

Generally, under the Treasury Department regulations implementing the CMIA, only major assistance programs (large-dollar programs meeting thresholds in 31 CFR § 205.5) are included in a State's written TSA. See 31 CFR § 205, subpart A. Programs included in a TSA must use approved funding techniques and both States and the Federal government are subject to interest liabilities for late payments. State interest liabilities accrue from the day federal funds are credited to a State account to the day the State pays out the federal funds for federal assistance program purposes. 31 CFR § 205.15. If a State makes a payment under a Federal assistance program before funds for that payment have been transferred to the State, Federal Government interest liabilities accrue from the date of the State payment until the Federal funds for that payment have been deposited to the State account. 31 CFR § 205.14.

CMIA Requirements Applicable to Programs Not Included in a TSA

Payments to States under programs not covered by a State's TSA are subject to subpart B of Treasury's regulations in 31 CFR § 205. These regulations provide that a State must minimize the time between the drawdown of funds from the federal government and their disbursement for approved program activities. The timing and amount of funds transfers must be kept to a minimum and be as close as is administratively feasible to a State's actual cash outlay for direct program costs and the proportionate share of any allowable indirect costs. 31 CFR § 205.33(a). States should exercise sound cash management in funds transfers to subgrantees.

¹ The Department adopted the Uniform Guidance as regulations of the Department at 2 CFR part 3474.

Under subpart B, neither the States nor the Department owe interest to the other for late payments. 31 CFR § 205.33(b). However, if a State or a Federal agency is consistently late in making payments, Treasury can require the program to be included in the State's TSA. 31 CFR § 205.35.

Fund transfer requirements for grantees other than State governments and subgrantees

The transfer of Federal program funds to grantees other than States and to subgrantees are subject to the payment and interest accrual requirements in the Uniform Guidance at 2 CFR § 200.305(b). These requirements are like those in subpart B of the Treasury Department regulations in 31 CFR part 205, requiring that "payments methods must minimize the time elapsing between the transfer of funds from the United States Treasury or the pass-through entity and the disbursement by the non-Federal entity." 2 CFR § 200.305(b) introduction.

The Federal Government and pass-through entities must make payments in advance of expenditures by grantees and subgrantees if these non-Federal entities maintain, or demonstrate the willingness to maintain, written procedures "that minimize the time elapsing between the transfer of funds and disbursement by the non-Federal entity, and financial management systems that meet the standards for fund control and accountability." 2 CFR § 200.305(b)(1). If a grantee or subgrantee cannot meet the criteria for advance payments, a Federal agency or pass-through entity can pay that entity through reimbursement. See 2 CFR § 200.305(b)(1) and (4) for more detailed description of the payment requirements and the standards for requiring that payments be made by reimbursement.

Non-Federal entities must maintain advance payments in interest bearing accounts unless certain conditions exist. See 2 CFR § 200.305(b)(8) for those conditions. The requirements regarding interest accrual and remittance follow:

Grantees and subgrantees must annually remit interest earned on federal advance payments except that interest earned amounts up to \$500 per year may be retained for administrative expense. Any additional interest earned on Federal advance payments deposited in interest-bearing accounts must be remitted annually to the Department of Health and Human Services Payment Management System (PMS) through an electronic medium using either Automated Clearing House (ACH) network or a Fedwire Funds Service payment. 2 CFR § 200.305(b)(9)(i) and (ii).

1. When returning interest through ACH Direct Deposit or Fedwire, grantees must include the following in their return transaction:
 - PMS Account Number (PAN). NOTE: The PAN is the same series of alpha-numeric characters used for payment request purposes (e.g.: C1234G1).
 - PMS document number.
 - The reason for the return (e.g., interest, part interest part other, etc.).
 - An explanation stating that the refund is for interest payable to the Department of Health and Human Services, and the grant number(s) for which the interest was earned.
- a. U.S. Department of Education grantees are generally located and operate domestically and return interest domestically. Below is PSC ACH account information for interest returned

GAN ENCLOSURE 4

Revised 03/2021

domestically. For international ACH interest returned, account information is available at: Returning Funds/Interest.

- PSC ACH Routing Number is: 051036706
 - PSC DFI Accounting Number: 303000
 - Bank Name: Credit Gateway - ACH Receiver
 - Location: St. Paul, MN
- b. Service charges may be incurred from a grantee's financial institution when a Fedwire to return interest is initiated. For FedWire returns, Fedwire account information is as follows:
- Fedwire Routing Number: 021030004
 - Agency Location Code (ALC): 75010501
 - Bank Name: Federal Reserve Bank
 - Treas NYC/Funds Transfer Division
 - Location: New York, NY
2. Interest may be returned by check using only the U.S. Postal Service; however, returning interest via check may take 4-6 weeks for processing before a check payment may be applied to the appropriate PMS account.
- a. Interests returned by check are to be mailed (USPS only) to:
- HHS Program Support Center
PO Box 979132
St. Louis, MO 63197
- A brief statement explaining the nature of the return must be included.
- b. To return interest on a grant not paid through the PMS, make the check payable to the Department of Health and Human Services, and include the following with the check:
- An explanation stating that the refund is for interest
 - The name of the awarding agency
 - The grant number(s) for which the interest was earned
 - The return should be made payable to: Department of Health and Human Services.
3. For detailed information about how to return interest, visit the PSC Returning Funds/Interest page at: [Returning Funds/Interest](#)

Grantees, including grantees that act as pass-through entities and subgrantees have other responsibilities regarding the use of Federal funds. For example, all grantees and subgrantees must have procedures for determining the allowability of costs for their awards. We highlight the following practices related to the oversight of subgrantee compliance with the financial management requirements in the Uniform Guidance that will assist State grantees (pass-through entities) in meeting their monitoring responsibilities. Under 2 CFR § 200.332, pass-through entities must –

GAN ENCLOSURE 4

Revised 03/2021

1. Evaluate each subrecipient's risk of noncompliance with Federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the subaward for purposes of determining the appropriate subrecipient monitoring.
2. Monitor the performance and fiscal activities of the subrecipient to ensure that the subaward is used for authorized purposes, in compliance with Federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of the subaward; and that subaward performance goals are achieved.

A small number of Department grant programs have program-specific cash management and payment requirements based on the authorizing legislation or program regulations. These program-specific requirements may supplement or override general cash management or payment requirements. If you have any questions about your specific grant, please contact the Education Program Contact listed in Block 3 of your Grant Award Notification.

RECIPIENTS OF DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION GRANTS AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ON CASH MANAGEMENT

Q What are the Federal Laws and Regulations Regarding Payments to the States?

A The *Cash Management Improvement Act of 1990 (CMIA)* establishes interest liabilities for the Federal and State governments when the Federal Government makes payments to the States. See 31 U.S.C. 3335 and 6503. The implementing regulations are in Title 31 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 205, https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title31/31cfr205_main_02.tpl. Non-Federal entities other than States follow the rules on Federal payments set out in 2 CFR 200.305.

Q What is a Treasury-State Agreement (TSA)?

A A TSA documents the accepted funding techniques and methods for calculating interest agreed upon by the U.S. Department of the Treasury (Treasury) and a State. It identifies the Federal assistance programs that are subject to interest liabilities under the CMIA. The CMIA regulations specify a number of different funding techniques that may be used by a State but a State can negotiate with the Treasury Department to establish a different funding technique for a particular program. A TSA is effective until terminated and, if a state does not have a TSA, payments to the State are subject to the default techniques in the regulations that Treasury determines are appropriate.

Q What are the CMIA requirements for a program subject to a Treasury-State Agreement?

A Payments to a State under a program of the Department are subject to the interest liability requirements of the CMIA if the program is included in the State's Treasury-State Agreement (TSA) with the Department of Treasury. If the Federal government is late in making a payment to a State, it owes interest to the State from the time the State spent its funds to pay for expenditure until the time the Federal government deposits funds to the State's account to pay for the expenditure. Conversely, if a State is late in making a payment under a program of the Department, the State owes interest to the Federal government from the time the Federal government deposited the funds to the State's account until the State uses those funds to make a payment. For more information, GAN Enclosure 4.

Q What are the CMIA requirements for a program that is not subject to a Treasury-State Agreement?

A If a program is not included in the State's TSA, neither the State nor the Federal government are liable for interest for making late payments. However, both the Federal government and the State must minimize the time elapsing between the date the State requests funds and the date that the funds are deposited to the State's accounts. The State is also required to minimize the time elapsed between the date it receives funds from the Federal government and the date it makes a payment under the program. Also, the Department must minimize the amount of funds transferred to a State to only that needed to meet the immediate cash needs of the State. The timing and amount of funds transferred must be as close as is administratively feasible to a State's actual cash outlay for direct program costs and the proportionate share of any allowable indirect costs.

Q What if there is no TSA?

GAN ATTACHMENT 5

Revised 03/2021

- A** When a State does not have a TSA in effect, default procedures in 31 CFR, part 205 that the Treasury Department determines appropriate apply. The default procedures will prescribe efficient funds transfer procedures consistent with State and Federal law and identify the covered Federal assistance programs and designated funding techniques.
- Q Who is responsible for Cash Management?**
- A** Grantees and subgrantees that receive grant funds under programs of the Department are responsible for maintaining internal controls regarding the management of Federal program funds under the Uniform Guidance in 2 CFR 200.302 and 200.303. In addition, grantees are responsible for ensuring that subgrantees are aware of the cash management and requirements in 2 CFR part 200, subpart D.
- Q Who is responsible for monitoring cash drawdowns to ensure compliance with cash management policies?**
- A** Recipients must monitor their own cash drawdowns **and** those of their subrecipients to assure substantial compliance to the standards of timing and amount of advances.
- Q How soon may I draw down funds from the G5 grants management system?**
- A** Grantees are required to minimize the amount of time between the drawdown and the expenditure of funds from their bank accounts. (See 2 CFR 200.305(b).) Funds must be drawn only to meet a grantee's immediate cash needs for each individual grant. The G5 screen displays the following message:
- By submitting this payment request, I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that the request is based on true, complete, and accurate information. I further certify that the expenditures and disbursements made with these funds are for the purposes and objectives set forth in the applicable Federal award or program participation agreement, and that the organization on behalf of which this submission is being made is and will remain in compliance with the terms and conditions of that award or program participation agreement. I am aware that the provision of any false, fictitious, or fraudulent information, or the omission of any material fact, may subject me, and the organization on behalf of which this submission is being made, to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties for fraud, false statements, false claims, or other violations. (U.S. Code Title 18, Section 1001; Title 20, Section 1097; and Title 31, Sections 3729-3730 and 3801-3812)**
- Q How may I use Federal funds?**
- A** Federal funds must be used as specified in the Grant Award Notification (GAN) and the approved application or State plan for allowable direct costs of the grant and an allocable portion of indirect costs, if authorized.
- Q What are the consequences to recipients/subrecipients for not complying with terms of the grant award?**
- A** If a recipient or subrecipient materially fails to comply with any term of an award, whether stated in a Federal statute or regulation, including those in 2 CFR part 200, an assurance, the GAN, or elsewhere, the awarding agency may in accordance with 2 CFR 200.339 take one or more of the following actions:

GAN ATTACHMENT 5

Revised 03/2021

1. Temporarily withhold cash payments pending correction of the deficiency by the non-Federal entity or more severe enforcement action by the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity.
2. Disallow (that is, deny both use of funds and any applicable matching credit for) all or part of the cost of the activity not in compliance.
3. Wholly or partly suspend or terminate the Federal award.
4. Initiate suspension or debarment proceedings as authorized under 2 CFR part 180 and Federal award agency regulations (or in the case of a pass-through be initiated by a Federal awarding agency).
5. Withhold further Federal awards for the project or program.
6. Take other remedies that may be legally available.

Q Who is responsible for determining the amount of interest owed to the Federal government?

A As set forth in 31 CFR 205.9, the method used to calculate and document interest liabilities is included in the State's TSA. A non-State entity must maintain advances of Federal funds in interest-bearing accounts unless certain limited circumstance apply and remit interest earned on those funds to the Department of Health and Human Services, Payment Management System annually. See 2 CFR 200.305.

Q What information should accompany my interest payment?

A In accordance with 2 CFR 200.305(b)(9), interest in excess of \$500.00 earned on Federal advance payments deposited in interest-bearing accounts must be remitted annually to the Department of Health and Human Services Payment Management System (PMS) through an electronic medium using either Automated Clearing House (ACH) network or a Fedwire Funds Service payment.

For returning interest on Federal awards paid through PMS, the refund should:

- (a) Provide an explanation stating that the refund is for interest;
- (b) List the PMS Payee Account Number(s) (PANs);
- (c) List the Federal award number(s) for which the interest was earned; and
- (d) Make returns payable to: Department of Health and Human Services.

For returning interest on Federal awards not paid through PMS, the refund should:

- (a) Provide an explanation stating that the refund is for interest;
- (b) Include the name of the awarding agency;
- (c) List the Federal award number(s) for which the interest was earned; and
- (d) Make returns payable to: Department of Health and Human Services.

For additional information about returning interest see GAN ATTACHMENT 4.

Q Are grant recipients/subrecipients automatically permitted to draw funds in advance of the time they need to disburse funds in order to liquidate obligations?

A The payment requirements in 2 CFR 200.305(b) authorize a grantee or subgrantee to request funds in advance of expenditures if certain conditions are met. However, if those conditions are not met, the Department and a pass-through agency may place a payee on reimbursement.

GAN ATTACHMENT 5

Revised 03/2021

- Q For formula grant programs such as ESEA Title I, for which States distribute funds to LEAs, may States choose to pay LEAs on a reimbursement basis?**
- A** A subgrantee must be paid in advance if it meets the standards for advance payments in 2 CFR 200.305(b)(1) but if the subgrantee cannot meet those standards, the State may put the subgrantee on reimbursement payment. See 2 CFR 200.305(b).
- Q Will the Department issue special procedures in advance if G5 plans to shut down for 3 days or more?**
- A** Yes, before any shutdown of G5 lasting three days or more, the Department issues special guidance for drawing down funds during the shut down. The guidance will include cash management improvement act procedures for States and certain State institutions of higher education and procedures for grants (including Pell grants) that are not subject to CMIA.

Exhibit I



**US Department of Education
Washington, D.C. 20202**

S336S230043 - 24

GRANT AWARD NOTIFICATION

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**US Department of Education
Washington, D.C. 20202**

S336S230043 - 24

GRANT AWARD NOTIFICATION

10

PR/AWARD NUMBER: S336S230043 - 24
RECIPIENT NAME: The Research Foundation for SUNY on behalf of U. at Buffalo
GRANTEE NAME: RESEARCH FOUNDATION FOR THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK, THE
520 LEE ENTRANCE STE 211,
AMHERST, NY 14228 - 2577
PROGRAM INDIRECT COST TYPE: Restricted
PROJECT INDIRECT COST RATE: 2%
TERMS AND CONDITIONS
N/A

DIANA SCHNEIDER Digitally signed by DIANA SCHNEIDER
Date: 2024.09.03 16:25:26 -04'00'

AUTHORIZING OFFICIAL

DATE

EXPLANATION OF BLOCKS ON THE GRANT AWARD NOTIFICATION

For Discretionary, Formula and Block Grants (See Block 2 of the Notification)

1. RECIPIENT NAME - The legal name of the recipient or name of the primary organizational unit that was identified in the application, state plan or other documents required to be submitted for funding by the grant program.

2. AWARD INFORMATION - Unique items of information that identify this notification.

PR/AWARD NUMBER - A unique, identifying number assigned by the Department to each application. On funded applications, this is commonly known as the "grant number" or "document number." The PR/Award Number is also known as the Federal Award Identifying Number, or FAIN.

ACTION NUMBER - A numeral that represents the cumulative number of steps taken by the Department to date to establish or modify the award through fiscal or administrative means. Action number "01" will always be "NEW AWARD"

ACTION TYPE - The nature of this notification (e.g., NEW AWARD, CONTINUATION, REVISION, ADMINISTRATIVE)

AWARD TYPE - The particular assistance category in which funding for this award is provided, i.e., DISCRETIONARY, FORMULA, or BLOCK. If this award was made under a Research and Development grant program, the terms RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT will appear under DISCRETIONARY, FORMULA OR BLOCK.

3. PROJECT STAFF - This block contains the names and telephone numbers of the U.S. Department of Education and recipient staff who are responsible for project direction and oversight.

***RECIPIENT PROJECT DIRECTOR** - The recipient staff person responsible for administering the project. This person represents the recipient to the U.S. Department of Education.

EDUCATION PROGRAM CONTACT - The U.S. Department of Education staff person responsible for the programmatic, administrative and business management concerns of the Department.

EDUCATION PAYMENT CONTACT - The U.S. Department of Education staff person responsible for payments or questions concerning electronic drawdown and financial expenditure reporting.

4. PROJECT TITLE AND CFDA NUMBER - Identifies the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) subprogram title and the associated subprogram number.

5.* KEY PERSONNEL - Name, title and percentage (%) of effort the key personnel identified devotes to the project.

6. AWARD PERIODS - Project activities and funding are approved with respect to three different time periods, described below:

BUDGET PERIOD - A specific interval of time for which Federal funds are being provided from a particular fiscal year to fund a recipient's approved activities and budget. The start and end dates of the budget period are shown.

PERFORMANCE PERIOD - The complete length of time the recipient is proposed to be funded to complete approved activities. A performance period may contain one or more budget periods.

***FUTURE BUDGET PERIODS** - The estimated remaining budget periods for multi-year projects and estimated funds the Department proposes it will award the recipient provided substantial progress is made by the recipient in completing approved activities, the Department determines that continuing the project would be in the best interest of the Government, Congress appropriates sufficient funds under the program, and the recipient has submitted a performance report that provides the most current performance information and the status of budget expenditures.

7. AUTHORIZED FUNDING - The dollar figures in this block refer to the Federal funds provided to a recipient during the award periods.

***THIS ACTION** - The amount of funds obligated (added) or de-obligated (subtracted) by this notification.

***BUDGET PERIOD** - The total amount of funds available for use by the grantee during the stated budget period to this date.

***PERFORMANCE PERIOD** - The amount of funds obligated from the start date of the first budget period to this date.

RECIPIENT COST SHARE - The funds, expressed as a percentage, that the recipient is required to contribute to the project, as defined by the program legislation or regulations and/or terms and conditions of the award.

RECIPIENT NON-FEDERAL AMOUNT - The amount of non-federal funds the recipient must contribute to the project as identified in the recipient's application. When non-federal funds are identified by the recipient where a cost share is not a legislation requirement, the recipient will be required to provide the non-federal funds.

8. ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION - This information is provided to assist the recipient in completing the approved activities and managing the project in accordance with U.S. Department of Education procedures and regulations.

UEI - The UEI, issued in SAM.gov, is a unique 12 character organization identifier assigned to each recipient for payment purposes.

***REGULATIONS** - Title 2 of the Code of Federal Regulations(CFR), Part 200 as adopted at 2 CFR 3474; the applicable parts of the Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR), specific program regulations (if any), and other titles of the CFR that govern the award and administration of this grant.

***ATTACHMENTS** - Additional sections of the Grant Award Notification that discuss payment and reporting requirements, explain Department procedures, and add special terms and conditions in addition to those established, and shown as clauses, in Block 10 of the award. Any attachments provided with a notification continue in effect through the project period until modified or rescinded by the Authorizing Official.

9. LEGISLATIVE AND FISCAL DATA - The name of the authorizing legislation for this grant, the CFDA title of the program through which funding is provided, and U.S. Department of Education fiscal information.

FUND CODE, FUNDING YEAR, AWARD YEAR, ORG.CODE, PROJECT CODE, OBJECT CLASS -

The fiscal information recorded by the U.S. Department of Education's Grants Management System (G5) to track obligations by award.

AMOUNT - The amount of funds provided from a particular appropriation and project code. Some notifications authorize more than one amount from separate appropriations and/or project codes. The total of all amounts in this block equals the amount shown on the line, "THIS ACTION" (See "AUTHORIZED FUNDING" above (Block 7)).

10. TERMS AND CONDITIONS - Requirements of the award that are binding on the recipient.

***PARTICIPANT NUMBER** - The number of eligible participants the grantee is required to serve during the budget year.

***GRANTEE NAME** - The entity name and address registered in the System for Award Management (SAM). This name and address is tied to the UEI registered in SAM under the name and address appearing in this field. This name, address and the associated UEI is what is displayed in the SAM Public Search.

***PROGRAM INDIRECT COST TYPE** - The type of indirect cost permitted under the program (i.e. Restricted, Unrestricted, or Training).

***PROJECT INDIRECT COST RATE** - The indirect cost rate applicable to this grant.

***AUTHORIZING OFFICIAL** - The U.S. Department of Education official authorized to award Federal funds to the recipient, establish or change the terms and conditions of the award, and authorize modifications to the award

FOR FORMULA AND BLOCK GRANTS ONLY:

(See also Blocks 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 9 and 10 above)

3. PROJECT STAFF - The U.S. Department of Education staff persons to be contacted for programmatic and payment questions.

7. AUTHORIZED FUNDING

CURRENT AWARD AMOUNT - The amount of funds that are obligated (added) or de-obligated (subtracted) by this action.

PREVIOUS CUMULATIVE AMOUNT - The total amount of funds awarded under the grant before this action.

CUMULATIVE AMOUNT - The total amount of funds awarded under the grant, this action included.

10. AFFILIATE - If an affiliate digital signature appears on this GAN, it is the digital signature belonging to the individual delegated the authority to affix the Authorizing Official's signature to the GAN.

* This item differs or does not appear on formula and block grants.

Exhibit J

S336S230043 - 24

Amanda Winkelsas

The Research Foundation for SUNY on behalf of U. at Buffalo

512 Baldy Hall

University at Buffalo

Buffalo, NY 14260

S336S230043 - 24

Jeffrey Schieder
The Research Foundation for SUNY on behalf of U. at Buffalo
The UB Commons
520 Lee Entrance, Suite 211
Amherst, NY 14228



**US Department of Education
Washington, D.C. 20202**

S336S230043 - 24

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**US Department of Education
Washington, D.C. 20202**

S336S230043 - 24

GRANT AWARD NOTIFICATION

10

PR/AWARD NUMBER: S336S230043 - 24

RECIPIENT NAME: The Research Foundation for SUNY on behalf of U. at Buffalo

GRANTEE NAME: THE RESEARCH FOUNDATION FOR THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
520 LEE ENTRANCE STE 211,
AMHERST, NY 14228 - 2577

PROGRAM INDIRECT COST TYPE: Restricted

PROJECT INDIRECT COST RATE: 2%

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- (1) THE BUDGET PERIOD AND PERFORMANCE PERIOD FOR THIS PROJECT ARE CHANGED TO THE DATES IN BLOCK 6. NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS ARE PROVIDED BY THIS ACTION.
- (2) The grant is deemed to be inconsistent with, and no longer effectuates, Department priorities. See 2 C.F.R. 200.340(a) (4); see also 34 C.F.R. 75.253.

JEAN MARCHOWSKY Digitally signed by JEAN MARCHOWSKY
Date: 2025.02.12 13:28:19 -05'00'

AUTHORIZING OFFICIAL

DATE

EXPLANATION OF BLOCKS ON THE GRANT AWARD NOTIFICATION

For Discretionary, Formula and Block Grants (See Block 2 of the Notification)

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***ATTACHMENTS** - Additional sections of the Grant Award Notification that discuss payment and reporting requirements, explain Department procedures, and add special terms and conditions in addition to those established, and shown as clauses, in Block 10 of the award. Any attachments provided with a notification continue in effect through the project period until modified or rescinded by the Authorizing Official.

9. LEGISLATIVE AND FISCAL DATA - The name of the authorizing legislation for this grant, the CFDA title of the program through which funding is provided, and U.S. Department of Education fiscal information.

FUND CODE, FUNDING YEAR, AWARD YEAR, ORG.CODE, PROJECT CODE, OBJECT CLASS -

The fiscal information recorded by the U.S. Department of Education's Grants Management System (G5) to track obligations by award.

AMOUNT - The amount of funds provided from a particular appropriation and project code. Some notifications authorize more than one amount from separate appropriations and/or project codes. The total of all amounts in this block equals the amount shown on the line, "THIS ACTION" (See "AUTHORIZED FUNDING" above (Block 7)).

10. TERMS AND CONDITIONS - Requirements of the award that are binding on the recipient.

***PARTICIPANT NUMBER** - The number of eligible participants the grantee is required to serve during the budget year.

***GRANTEE NAME** - The entity name and address registered in the System for Award Management (SAM). This name and address is tied to the UEI registered in SAM under the name and address appearing in this field. This name, address and the associated UEI is what is displayed in the SAM Public Search.

***PROGRAM INDIRECT COST TYPE** - The type of indirect cost permitted under the program (i.e. Restricted, Unrestricted, or Training).

***PROJECT INDIRECT COST RATE** - The indirect cost rate applicable to this grant.

***AUTHORIZING OFFICIAL** - The U.S. Department of Education official authorized to award Federal funds to the recipient, establish or change the terms and conditions of the award, and authorize modifications to the award

FOR FORMULA AND BLOCK GRANTS ONLY:

(See also Blocks 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 9 and 10 above)

3. PROJECT STAFF - The U.S. Department of Education staff persons to be contacted for programmatic and payment questions.

7. AUTHORIZED FUNDING

CURRENT AWARD AMOUNT - The amount of funds that are obligated (added) or de-obligated (subtracted) by this action.

PREVIOUS CUMULATIVE AMOUNT - The total amount of funds awarded under the grant before this action.

CUMULATIVE AMOUNT - The total amount of funds awarded under the grant, this action included.

10. AFFILIATE - If an affiliate digital signature appears on this GAN, it is the digital signature belonging to the individual delegated the authority to affix the Authorizing Official's signature to the GAN.

* This item differs or does not appear on formula and block grants.

Exhibit K

- Outlook

S336S230043_ THE_RESEARCH_FOUNDATION_FOR_THE_STATE_UNIVERSITY_OF_NEW_YORK_021225_FINAL.pdf

From Washington, Mark <Mark.Washington@ed.gov>

Date Wed 2/12/2025 10:05 PM

To Amanda Winkelsas <awinkels@buffalo.edu>

Cc Ryder, Ruth <Ruth.Ryder@ed.gov>; Weems, Kia <Kia.Weems@ed.gov>; Williams, Damien <Damien.Williams@ed.gov>

@ 1 attachment (312 KB)

53365230043_ THE_RESEARCH_FOUNDATION_FOR_THE_STATE_UNIVERSITY_OF_NEW_YORK_021225_FINAL.pdf;

Dear Ms. Winkelsas,

Please see the attached letter, informing you of the Department's decision to terminate your federal award S336S230043, because the grant is inconsistent with, and no longer effectuates, Department priorities. You will also receive an updated GAN notice, confirming this decision and change. You will also receive notification from the Department's GS grants administration system.

Please feel free to contact me with any related questions or concerns about this information. Please also note the basis for challenge or appeal of this decision, as noted in the language of the attached letter.

Respectfully,

Mark Washington



Mark Washington

Deputy Assistant Secretary

United States Department of Education

Office of Elementary and Secondary Education

400 Maryland Avenue, SW | Washington, D.C. 20202

Phone: (202) 205-01671 Mobile: (202) 549-9956 | Email: mark.washington@ed.gov

Exhibit L



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF SECONDARY AND ELEMENTARY EDUCATION
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATION

Amanda Winkelsas
Project Director
THE RESEARCH FOUNDATION FOR THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK
512 Baldy Hall
University at Buffalo
Buffalo, NY 14260

RE: Grant Award Termination

Dear Amanda Winkelsas

This letter provides notice that the United States Department of Education is terminating your federal award, S336S230043. *See* 2 C.F.R. § 200.340-43; *see also* 34 C.F.R. § 75.253.

It is a priority of the Department of Education to eliminate discrimination in all forms of education throughout the United States. The Acting Secretary of Education has determined that, per the Department's obligations to the constitutional and statutory law of the United States, this priority includes ensuring that the Department's grants do not support programs or organizations that promote or take part in diversity, equity, and inclusion ("DEI") initiatives or any other initiatives that unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, or another protected characteristic. Illegal DEI policies and practices can violate both the letter and purpose of Federal civil rights law and conflict with the Department's policy of prioritizing merit, fairness, and excellence in education. In addition to complying with the civil rights laws, it is vital that the Department assess whether all grant payments are free from fraud, abuse, and duplication, as well as to assess whether current grants are in the best interests of the United States.

The grant specified above provides funding for programs that promote or take part in DEI initiatives or other initiatives that unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, or another protected characteristic; that violate either the letter or purpose of Federal civil rights law; that conflict with the Department's policy of prioritizing merit, fairness, and excellence in education; that are not free from fraud, abuse, or duplication; or that otherwise fail to serve the best interests of the United States. The grant is therefore inconsistent with, and no longer effectuates, Department priorities. *See* 2 C.F.R. § 200.340(a)(4); *see also* 34 C.F.R. § 75.253. Therefore, pursuant to, among other authorities, 2 C.F.R. § 200.339-43, 34 C.F.R. § 75.253, and the termination provisions in your grant award, the Department hereby terminates grant No. S336S230043 in its entirety effective 2/12/25.

400 MARYLAND AVE., S.W., WASHINGTON, DC 20202
www.ed.gov

If you wish to object to or challenge this termination decision, you must submit information and documentation supporting your position in writing within 30 calendar days of the date of this termination notice. Objections and challenges must be sent by email and first-class mail and addressed to the component head that oversees the grantmaking unit, which will typically be the Assistant Secretary of that unit. In this case, please address your objection or challenge to Ruth Ryder, Acting Assistant Secretary; Office of Elementary and Secondary Education; 400 Maryland Ave., SW; Washington, D.C. 20202; ruth.ryder@ed.gov.

Your appeal should contain the following:

1. a copy of the written notice of termination;
2. the date you received written notice of termination;
3. a brief statement of your argument and the disputed factual, legal, or other issues;
4. the amount of funds or costs in dispute, if any; and
5. any other relevant documents.

See id. § 200.342.

Costs incurred by you after this termination are allowable only if (a) those costs were properly incurred by you before the effective date of this termination, and not in anticipation of it; and (b) those costs would be allowable if your federal award was not suspended or expired normally at the end of the period of performance in which the termination takes effect. *See* 2 C.F.R. § 200.343. You are encouraged to carefully review and discharge your closeout responsibilities set forth in 2 C.F.R. § 200.344-45 and your award agreement. Those responsibilities include, but are not limited to, your obligation to “promptly refund any unobligated funds” that have been paid out but “are not authorized to be retained.” *See* 2 C.F.R. § 200.344(g). Failure to do so will result in the Department filing a report documenting your “material failure to comply with the terms and conditions of” this award on SAM.gov and taking any other appropriate enforcement actions. *See id.* § 200.344(i).

Finally, you are reminded of your duties under your agreement and Department of Education guidance regarding retention of grant records for at least three years.

Respectfully,

MARK
WASHINGTON

Digitally signed by MARK
WASHINGTON
Date: 2025.02.12
22:02:29 -05'00'

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Management and Planning

cc: Ruth Ryder

400 MARYLAND AVE., S.W., WASHINGTON, DC 20202
www.ed.gov